

**The MIDLAND FURNISHING CO., LTD.**  
17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000

# The People

A Weekly Newspaper for All Classes.

**Strong Healthy Children**  
NEAVE'S FOOD  
NEAVE'S FOOD is a Perfectly Food for the young and most delicate child if used according to instructions. It assists Teething, is a valuable Boon for the mother, relieves Constipation, and is a COMPLETE DIET FOR INFANTS.  
Sold in 1/- and 2/6 Tins; also in 4d. Packets.  
Write for "HINTS ABOUT BABY," by a Trained Nurse; post card to JOSEPH NEAVE and Co., Fordingbridge, via Salisbury.

No. 1,419.—ONE PENNY. [Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.] LONDON, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1903. Publishing Offices: 15, BEDFORD LANE, STRAND, W.C.

## LATEST FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.

### INDIAN REFORMS.

#### THEIR RECEPTION BY THE NATIVE PRESS.

Calcutta, Saturday.—The native papers generally welcome the reform scheme. The "Bangalore," however, says it looks for more concessions. **Reader.**  
Bombay, Saturday.—Mr. Gokhale, the moderate leader, and Sir Pherozshah Mehta, an additional member of the Council of the Governor of Bombay, have expressed their views to a representative of the "Times of India" upon the scheme of reform outlined by Lord Morley. They both keenly appreciate the liberality of the reforms foreshadowed. Mr. Gokhale said that they constituted a real beginning of provincial self-government, though they would not receive a fair trial unless the root of the mischief were removed by a modification of the partition of Bengal.  
Might Have Been Left Unsaid.  
Sir Pherozshah Mehta observed that the reforms were most substantial and exceeded expectations. He considered, however, that Lord Morley's remark that he did not aspire to a Parliamentary system for India might have been left unsaid. When India and China were talking of Parliament, he did not care to get the seal of importance upon India. That, however, was too far ahead at present. Their aims must be practical. The native Press describes the reforms as real and genuine, ensuring a substantial and generous step forward. The withdrawal of the official majorities is particularly appreciated, and the wisdom of the electoral college system is recognised.—*Reuter.*

### THE KING OF PORTUGAL.

**NOW THE YOUNG MONARCH ESCAPED ASSASSINATION.**  
Lisbon (via Badajoz), Saturday.—It may be recalled that on his arrival from Oporto, King Manuel drove from the station to the Palace at full gallop in a closed carriage, surrounded by cavalry. Newspapers at the time commented on the haste of the King's entry. It now appears that there was reason for the speed with which he was hastened through the streets. An ex-police officer named Julio Mendes recently tried to poison himself with arsenic, but was unsuccessful in the attempt. When he had recovered from the effects of the poison he was interrogated by the authorities, and finally confessed that there was a plot to assassinate the King on the day of his arrival. Mendes was hidden near the station, and the King only escaped certain death owing to the great speed with which he passed in the closed carriage. He is believed to belong to a secret society. The news has created a great sensation here.—*Central News.*

### STARTLING IF TRUE.

**COLOMBIAN TROOPS ON FRONTIER OF VENEZUELA.**  
Paris, Saturday.—Private advice received here to-day, from a source on which the utmost reliance can be placed, state that 4,000 Colombian troops are massed on the Venezuelan frontier.—*Central News.*

### EXECUTIONS IN RUSSIA.

St. Petersburg, Saturday.—Nine executions are reported as having taken place yesterday, while 13 death sentences were passed. One of the prisoners condemned to death at Kief escaped from prison as he was on the point of being driven to the place of execution. Although in chains, the man ran over half a mile before he was overtaken and recaptured. He was subsequently hanged.—*Reuter.*

### GRAND DUKE'S FORTUNE.

According to information from St. Petersburg, the Grand Duke Alexis, the Czar's uncle, who died recently in Paris, has left a fortune estimated at £2,000,000. By the Czar's orders this immense sum will be divided between the Grand Dukes Peter and Vladimir, brothers of the late Grand Duke Alexis.

### VOTES FOR BELGIAN WOMEN.

Brussels, Saturday.—The Chamber to-day passed the Bill giving women the right to vote for and be members of joint conferences of employers and employees.—*Reuter.*

### WELL-KNOWN FENCER DEAD.

Paris, Saturday.—A telegram from Rome to the "Reale" announces the death at Trapani of the Italian fencer, San Malato.—*Reuter.*

### NEW U.S. STATE SECRETARY.

New York, Saturday.—Mr. Taft himself confirms to-day the announcement that Mr. Root's successor as State Secretary is to be Senator Knox.

### "SWELL CRACKSMEN."

**BANK ROBBERIES ATTENDED IN EVENING DRESS.**  
New York, Saturday.—A sensational affair is reported this morning from Gibson, Nebraska, where two banks have been raided by "swell cracksmen" in remarkable circumstances. The raid was effected by a gang of apparent gentlemen, all immaculately attired in evening dress and wearing silk hats, who drove from one bank to the other and finally made good their escape in an automobile. Fortunately they were unable to make any very extensive haul, but their booty amounted to some 6,000 dollars (£1,200) in all. They were unable to get clear without being detected, though the authorities found it impossible to prevent their escape, despite a fusillade of shots which was poured after the retreating car. The police are now scouring the countryside for the daring perpetrators of this original robbery.—*Central News.*

### THE STUDIO MURDER.

**REPORTED DISAPPEARANCE OF ALEXANDRE WOLFF.**  
Paris, Saturday.—The "Journal" and the "Paris Journal" publish telegrams from Havre announcing that Alexandre Wolff, the son of the Steinheils' former cook, has disappeared. It will be remembered that he was arrested in connection with the crime, but was afterwards released. According to the telegrams, Wolff yesterday eluded the vigilance of the two detective officers who were keeping him under observation, and he has not returned to his home in Paris. It is rumoured that he has left for England.—*Reuter.*  
Wolff proved to the satisfaction of the police that he was not in Mme. Steinheil's house in the Impasse Ronsin up to 1.30, at which time the clock stopped, and the crime was supposed to have been committed; but it has subsequently been alleged that the clock was tampered with, and that the crime was really committed at 4.30 a.m. When confronted with Mme. Steinheil before the magistrate, the widow a second time charged him with the crime, asserting that he had threatened that if she accused him he would in retaliation charge her with being an accomplice. This accusation roused the cook's son to fury.

### DESPERATE PRISONERS.

Constantinople, Saturday.—The prisoners in the Central Prison at Stambul have made a desperate attempt to escape. They tried to set fire to the prison, but were eventually overpowered by the guard, who were compelled to use their arms. One prisoner was killed and three were wounded.—*Reuter.*

### THE DALAI LAMA.

Peking, Saturday.—The Dalai Lama, who has been here since Sept. 27, formally bade farewell to the Regent on Thursday, and yesterday left for the Ministers and officials. He will leave Peking at nine o'clock on Monday morning.—*Reuter.*

### THE "ABODE OF LOVE."

**RUMOURS OF PIOTT'S REMOVAL INCREASED.**  
Rumours have been current that the Rev. Smyth Piott was abandoning the "Abode of Love" at Spaxton, Somerset, in favour of a removal to London, but inquiries made yesterday by a "People" representative show that these are unfounded. Old employees on the estate have had no notice of any contemplated change, and village tradespeople, whom the "Abode" patronised extensively, too see credence in the rumour. The fare for the "Abode" has been ordered locally, and one farmer alone is supplying 20 turkeys.

### ROYALTY AT WEST HAM.

Yesterday afternoon Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig-Holstein visited West Ham and opened the St. Jude's Children's Hall. The bells of the Parish Church pealed during the afternoon as a welcome to the Princess to the district, and H.R.H. was received by a guard of honour of the West Ham Company of the Chesham League. The Mayor (Mr. H. Little) received the Princess, who was presented with an address of welcome from 170 Sunday School teachers and 3,200 scholars. The Rev. Canon Pelly referred to the thickly populated character of the neighbourhood, and said that Mr. John Tennant had given them a broadsword piano, whilst Mr. Carnegie had promised to pay half the cost of an organ. In conclusion the vicar said the building had been very largely provided by the contributions of the poor, and a fund known as the Children's Parthians' Fund associated to £15 2s.

### A POOR RECORD.

**THE MANY FAILURES OF GIRL MURDERED IN AN EXPRESS TRAIN.**  
In spite of the fact that Parliament has sat for about nine months, the record of the past session has been a remarkably barren one, considering the mass of measures which the Government put forward in the King's Speech. When Mr. Asquith, on the death of Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman, succeeded to the position of Minister, he found himself confronted with an almost impossible task, and in order to stem the revolt which was spreading rapidly among the extreme section of his supporters, resorted to the most drastic use of the guillotine which has ever been attempted in Parliamentary history. This was done in spite of the repeated warnings of the Leader of the Opposition. As a result several of the Government's big Bills were rushed through the Commons practically without any discussion taking place on the most important clauses. The inevitable has therefore happened, and the work of legislation may be summed up in the word "failures." A certain measure—the confiscatory Licensing Bill—and have greatly amended several others. It is interesting to recall the fate of some of the loudly heralded measures to which Ministers planned their political reputations:—  
The Licensing Bill.  
REJECTED BY THE LORDS.  
Land Valuation Bill.  
NOT INTRODUCED.  
Irish Land Purchase Bill.  
POSTPONED UNTIL NEXT SESSION.  
The Education Bill.  
BOTH WITHDRAWN.  
The three chief Bills which have passed are:—  
Mines (Eight Hours).  
OLD-AGE PENSIONS.  
Children.  
The two last-named were supported by the Unionists, while the former was passed despite the protests of a section of the Government's own supporters.  
Among the small measures, many of which are of a non-controversial character, may be mentioned the following:—  
Admission of Press to Local Authorities Meetings.  
Agricultural Holdings.  
Boat Post.  
Companies in Criminal Courts.  
East India Loans.  
Scottish Education.  
Scottish Constabulary.  
Irish Constabulary.  
Irish Housing.  
Friendly Societies.  
Scottish Land Supply.  
Naval Marriages.  
Patents.  
Poisons and Pharmacy.  
Prevention of Crime.  
Public Meetings.  
Disorder.  
Scottish 5s and 11s Holders.  
Scottish Tobacco Growing.  
Tuberculosis Prevention (Ireland).  
White Phosphorus Matches.  
London Electric Supply.

### THE KING AT BRIGHTON.

**LOCAL SATISFACTION AT HIS VISIT.**  
The fact that the King has decided to pass another week-end at Brighton has given great satisfaction there, and the town is very cheerful. His Majesty ventured out yesterday, though the weather was wet and cold. He walked in the private grounds opposite the King's Gardens, and sat on his favourite sheltered seat again. Rain was then falling steadily. Mr. Sassoon's carriage and pair picked up his Majesty, and drove off along Brighton front, and back again to west King's Gardens being reached for luncheon at a quarter past one. His Majesty was out altogether about an hour. The principal tradespeople say that business has increased during the last fortnight almost beyond precedent. The leading hotels and boarding establishments are arranging a series of balls and concerts, extending from Christmas Eve to the New Year.

### A RECORD PRIVATE BILL.

A measure, which has been described as the longest private Bill on record, has just been deposited at the Private Bill Office of the House of Commons. This measure, which is known as "The Bury Corporation Bill," consists of no fewer than 323 clauses and 10 schedules.

### ILLNESS OF LORD WINDSOR.

Calcutta, Saturday.—The condition of Lord Windsor, extra Aide de Camp to Lord Minto, is highly critical.—*Reuter.*

### TUNNEL TRAGEDY.

The mystery of the double tragedy which occurred in an express train in the Severn tunnel has been practically cleared up. Briefly, the facts are that as the 9.30 p.m. express emerged from the tunnel, the guard heard revolver shots, and, stopping the train, examined the carriage from which the sounds emanated. On the floor of the compartment in a pool of blood were found the bodies of a man and a woman, both well dressed. In each case life was extinct, and the bodies were taken on to Newport (Mon.) and placed in the mortuary.  
"My Darling Gwen."  
The woman was subsequently identified as Catherine Edith Gwendolen Clarke, unmarried, aged 21, who lived with her father, a retired master mariner, in Chesham-rd., Newport. On the woman were two letter-cards addressed, "Miss G. Clarke, Tampion's Restaurant, New York." Both were couched in affectionate terms, and commenced "My darling Gwen."  
The man was identified as Arthur E. Wintle, of the same address as the woman. He was a wood-turner, and was out of employment. He came to him from Birmingham. Wintle did not disguise the fact that he was married. He said his wife and children were at Coventry, and that a separation order was being sought by her. Miss Clarke was introduced by deceased as his sister, Miss Wintle. In deceased's box there were 44 cartridges, but witness had never seen him with a revolver. The young lady and Wintle had tea with him on the Thursday.  
He was quite cheerful, but witness did not notice that he was particularly affectionate to the girl. On leaving the house deceased said "Au revoir" but did not say that he intended journeying to Newport.  
Companion: There was nothing in their behaviour which would lead you to suppose that he was keeping up a clandestine correspondence with this woman? No; nothing whatever. Witness said that deceased had plenty of money at first, but in the last fortnight had borrowed 15s. from him, and also owed two weeks' rent. Mrs. Cole gave corroborative evidence.  
The coroner read a number of letters in private, and in adjourning the inquiry until Monday remarked to the jury that the deceased had been a devoted husband and father, and that he seemed to have excited very strong affection in her breast.



MISS CLARKE.  
(From "The Graphic.")

### Inquest Opened.

At the inquest, which was opened at Newport, yesterday, a large amount of correspondence between the victims was put in. Ernest Jas. Cole, Mend St. Pryor-hill, Bristol, said that Wintle had lodged with him for three months. Deceased was a wood-turner, and was out of employment. He came to him from Birmingham. Wintle did not disguise the fact that he was married. He said his wife and children were at Coventry, and that a separation order was being sought by her. Miss Clarke was introduced by deceased as his sister, Miss Wintle. In deceased's box there were 44 cartridges, but witness had never seen him with a revolver. The young lady and Wintle had tea with him on the Thursday.

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### ELOPING LOVERS.

**PRESENT DAY PARISIAN DRAMA.**  
(From our Paris Correspondent.)  
An extraordinary imbroglio, arising out of an elopement and involving charges of a terrible nature against a member of the Paris police, is just now occupying the attention of the Paris police. The heroine of the piece is Mlle. Marie Schorer, a pretty young girl of 17, whose father is well known in business circles at the Central Markets, and whilst her companion—M. Boulat, a watchmaker in the boulevard Nant-Germain—cannot exactly be called a hero, it is not yet quite certain that he is the real villain. M. Schorer, who has been married a second time, resides in the boulevard Arago, in the Gobelins quarter. Mlle. Marie Schorer's mother was his first wife, now deceased. Some months ago the young girl suddenly left her home, and was for a long time nowhere to be found. It appears, however, that she went to live with the watchmaker, Boulat—who is a married man, but against whom divorce proceedings are pending—in the populous suburb of Charenton. The two lovers had become acquainted in a big shop in the Rue de Rivoli, in which Mlle. Schorer was employed recently.  
Terrible Accusations.  
To escape the searches instigated by her father, the couple left Paris and took up their quarters in the provinces. The father's sleuthhounds, however, were soon on their track, and they were continually compelled to remove from town to town. This game of hide-and-seek continued until a few weeks ago, when the fugitives were definitely located. The young girl was arrested and sent to a home, and the father promptly summoned Boulat for the abduction and sequestration of his daughter. Then it was that further complications ensued. A few days ago the girl managed to escape from the home in which her father had placed her, and took refuge with her lover in Paris. From there she indicted a long letter to the Public Prosecutor, formulating some terrible accusations against her own father. Protecting of the purity of her life and sentiments, she first of all assured the Public Prosecutor that she had left her home and fled with M. Boulat, and of her subsequent and cruelty of her father. Her intention, she said, was to become the wife of the watchmaker, who had several times asked for her hand, but had always met with a blank refusal. She concluded by accusing her father of having attempted to assault her during her escape, and of having murdered her first wife, her mother. Furthermore, her grandfather and aunt also added a note asking that M. Schorer be deprived of the guardianship of his daughter.  
Threats Against Boulat.  
At the same time Boulat, the watchmaker, also charged M. Schorer with having threatened and attempted to murder him. He accuses M. Schorer of having hired a number of hooligans to follow him and endeavour to take his life. As a consequence, he said, he dared not venture out of doors after nightfall. M. Schorer protests that these accusations are a tissue of lies, but he admits that he used threats against Boulat. "But," he said in an interview the other day, "what father of a family would not do the same towards his daughter's seducer?" "I loved my child," he continued, "and my affection and honour cruelly suffered the day my daughter ran away with this man." Although active inquiries are being pursued, the police are inclined to think that the charges of the daughter are merely dictated by malice. M. Schorer enjoys an excellent reputation, both in business and private life, and public opinion, which is greatly exercised over the affair, strongly favours him.

### Many Quarrels.

Some details of the life of the Cole family, which may have an important bearing on the crime, were told by Mr. Gill, the brother-in-law of Mr. Schorer. "Kitchens" for some time past," he said, "the family had been in a state of internal warfare. The father suspected that his sons were robbing him, and after many quarrels—some mild and some very fierce—he finally resolved to discontinue his partnership with them. He came to this decision after the matter had been thoroughly discussed with his son-in-law, Mr. Kitchens. My brother-in-law was married to Councilor Cole's favourite daughter, and it was decided that he should be taken into partnership in place of the sons. Naturally the sons did not at all like this, and they have been heard to threaten both Councilor Cole and Mr. Kitchens. About a fortnight ago Mr. Cole came up to town, and told me that he had feared his sons, who were robbing him, had never been of the best.

### A Romantic Marriage.

I am naturally very upset by the tragedy, which I only heard about during the morning when I received a telegram from Mrs. Kitchens to say that Major was dying. Really, of course, he was dead. I fear that the tragedy will also kill his mother, who has been seriously ill for some time past. There was a certain amount of romance attached to Major's marriage. He was brought up in a different class to that in which the Coles belonged, but meeting Miss Cole casually he fell in love with her and married her about three years ago. His home was at Bury, and his mother is still living there. The murderer, while lying unconscious in the workhouse infirmary, made some curious rambling statements. I am told that for practically the whole of the eight hours he was in the hospital he was continually muttering about considerable importance to these ramblings. I hear that the arrest of the two brothers was to a large extent due to them. The inquest has not yet been fixed, but I understand that it will probably take place on Tuesday.  
The sons were bound over for using threats to Mr. Kitchens on Oct. 16. At the police court the latter stated that he was at the sale of Messrs. Cole's effects at the knacker's yard at Cold Norton. He was brother-in-law to the defendants, and was talking to his wife and her father when defendants came up and threatened to "put his light out." He really believed they meant to do it. He was afraid, and he sought the protection of P.C. Hammond. In reply to counsel for the defence, he said there was a good deal of jangling going on, but defendants came up to him, and he only answered them back in their own coin. Each of the defendants would be bound over to keep the peace for six months.

### BRITISH STEAMER SUNK.

New York, Saturday.—A serious collision between two British vessels occurred yesterday evening during heavy fog off Sandy Hook. The Catalina, while making her way into New York, collided with the Dagoberto, a large British steamship bound for Macao, sinking the latter vessel. Fortunately all the 35 in number, were saved, as a result of the prompt measures taken by the Catalina's boats.—*Central News.*

### THE ESSEX CRIME.



## CIGARETTE PAPERS FOR AFTER-DINNER SMOKING.

BY CHARLES LOWE.

### A "Gay Gordon."

It has long been my custom to read myself asleep with a novel, and to begin the day with the rapid perusal of my newspaper. The other night it happened to be "Ivanhoe" that I read, and I fell over thinking of Isaac of York, and how the Jews of his intolerant time were treated. On opening my morning paper the first thing that caught my eye was also something about another Hebrew connected with York; but on closer examination the bond of connection, rather, of disconnection, turned out to be a York ham. The Hebrew in question was a worthy Whitechapel member of the London County Council, called Gordon, who had brought an action for libel against, and received 250 quid from, a Jewish journal for falsely asserting that, at a banquet given by the Hon. Harry Lawson, Mayor of Stepney, he had—contrary to the usage of his religion—consumed a slab of roasted swine-flesh; that, in fact, a co-religionist of Isaac of York had been untrue to his faith by eating York ham. But what shocked me in particular, as a keen student of race, was not so much the parody on the Jews, and I at once wrote to my friend, Mr. J. M. Bulloch, the author of a recently published volume entitled "The Gay Gordons," with the suggestion that he should include in his next edition of that most interesting volume some allusion to the Whitechapel member of the great Aberdeenshire clan, who has contributed to the British Army one of its finest killed regiments. "The Gordons will do it"—that is to say, they will readily take the heights of Dargai—but they will not partake of roast pork.

### The Jews of Scotland.

Mr. Bulloch, it is true, points out in his recent volume that several members of the present Gordon clan are of Jewish descent, which is difficult to account for, except on the theory of one learned and acute philosopher that "Saxon" is clearly a corruption of "Satanian," and that the original inhabitants of this island of ours were of the Jewish race. Now, the Aberdeenshire Gordons, in spite of their tartan and their whisky and their bagpipes, are not a Celtic sept at all, but the dominant element in what is, perhaps, the purest of all Lowland Scots counties of Saxe-Scandinavian race, so that the credit philosopher referred to, may after all be right. One has heard of a Scotch Jew of German extraction born in America—a man hard to beat at a bargain; but in the case of the Gordons of Whitechapel it would appear that the Transatlantic element in this quite portentous combination of racial characteristics will remain to be added. It is an argument against the Scottish origin of a man that his features and complexion are of the east, and that his general appearance is more Semitic than sandy, because every race has its two types—dark and fair—as evidenced, for example, by the existence of red-haired Jews. On the other hand, to the Highlands, and you will find that some of the Black men are as dark and handsome as the Arabs or the French Celts. Mr. Robert Gibb's "Thin Red Line," which was on show in the Art Gallery of the White City throughout this summer, attracted thousands of admirers. Artistically it is very fine, but from an ethnological point of view as I have ever thought, it is all wrong, because all Mr. Gibb's Highlanders are fair and sandy-haired, while I feel certain that a very large percentage of Sir Colin's heroes at Balacava must have been as dark as the recruits from the East-End of London, which caused one reviewer to refer to the recruiting of Highlanders consisting chiefly of "Mile Enders."

### Mutual Dislike.

But the case is not unique. Several years ago Judge Bacon, of the Whitechapel County Court, happened to pass some very strong remarks on the habits of certain Jews, and the "Jewish Chronicle" of the day, when giving their evidence through an interpreter. Thereupon this epigram appeared:—

Judge Bacon does not like the Jews;  
This fact my cash I'll stake on.

And one of them was a Hebrew peer, of whom the following story was told. His lordship once received a Christian visitor on some ticklish question of business, and words grew high and hot between them. "Well, my lord," said the visitor, reining in with a desire to throw oil on the troubled waters of debate, "I hope you're not going to eat me!" "My religion forbids me," replied the lord of the Jewish community with a proud disdain.

### A Change of Names.

The Rothschilds, in their time, have changed many names, but they have never changed their names. A Latin writer has said that "those who cross the sea do change their 'oil' but not their 'names'." But what the immigrant Semite is fond of changing is his name. In the case of actors and actresses this is so common a practice that it may be doubted whether fifty per cent. of those who now adorn our stage are not sailing under false colours—to use a very mixed metaphor here in the case of the Jewish practice of the same kind the names are different. Perhaps a certain element of concealment enters into both motives. In one of his novels Dixie makes Sholem say to Conzangy that "they—the Jews—have changed names in order to conceal the dark aversion of the Gentiles." In so doing they pay the compliment of adopting some of our most monotonous and aristocratic names. For an examination of the name-holders in the twelve principal synagogues of London reveals such respect-inspiring patronymics as Bedington, Clifford, Cohen, Curtis,

Graham, Gordon, Grant, Halford, Hamilton, Harding, Hardy, Herbert, Howard, Lumley, Manville, Marsden, Merton, Norman, Morley, Morton, Neville, Norman, Russell, Sydney, Welford, etc. As a rule, too, they manage to retain their original initials while changing their names. Thus, "Cohenstein" becomes "Gordon"; Hirsch-Harris becomes "Solomon"; and even Sullivan in the case of Sir Arthur, Asher-Archer; Schleininger-Sinclair; Levi-Lewin; Cohen-Cowan; and a hundred other examples of most ingenious name-transformation. Still, as one of them once sang at a Savage Club entertainment, "they can change their names, but they can't change their 'noges'."

### Eau d'Cologne.

But I must tell a delicious story about a member of that gifted race, at a banquet given by the Hon. Harry Lawson, Mayor of Stepney, he had—contrary to the usage of his religion—consumed a slab of roasted swine-flesh; that, in fact, a co-religionist of Isaac of York had been untrue to his faith by eating York ham. But what shocked me in particular, as a keen student of race, was not so much the parody on the Jews, and I at once wrote to my friend, Mr. J. M. Bulloch, the author of a recently published volume entitled "The Gay Gordons," with the suggestion that he should include in his next edition of that most interesting volume some allusion to the Whitechapel member of the great Aberdeenshire clan, who has contributed to the British Army one of its finest killed regiments. "The Gordons will do it"—that is to say, they will readily take the heights of Dargai—but they will not partake of roast pork.

### A Grand Old Man.

Still, when all is said and done, Scotland is much richer in Jews than it is in Jew, who find the soil of "Caledonia stern and wild," congenial for the growth of that personal prosperity which they rarely fail to achieve in other climes. True, we have now in our midst plenty of Scotch Jews, or Jews with Scotch names—wealth is not quite the same thing, though they come to us not from Edinburgh and Aberdeen, but from Continental cities like Frankfurt, Warsaw, and Prague. Yet one of our most valued contributions from the capital of Bohemia was not a Jew, but a very good Gentile, Mr. Wilhelm Kohn, who has just celebrated his eightieth birthday—still vigorous if quite blind. One of the most pathetic things I have seen for a long time, was a photograph in the papers of the venerable musician seated at the piano, and listening himself, like Milton, for his lack of sight by listening to the music of the spheres—as evoked by his own fingers. Blessed are the blind who can handle a fiddlebow or the keyboard of a piano. "When I first came to England 60 years ago," he said the other day, "I could speak very little English. Among the introductions I brought with me from Prague was one to a lady in the West-End. 'So you come from Prague,' she remarked as she cordially greeted me. 'I am pleased, because you will be able to play me 'The Battle of Prague,' which I love so much.' I need hardly remind you that 'The Battle of Prague' was one of those old-fashioned pieces that no professional pianist ever played. The day after my introduction to her, she said to me, 'Carlyle evidently did, for in his 'Frederick' he writes:—'This is the famous battle of Prague, fought May 7, 1757, which sounded all through the world, and used to deafen us in drawing-rooms within man's memory.' It was so bloody as Austria."

### Scarlet Women.

It is a far cry from Australia to the Albert Hall, and yet they have more in common than Monmouth and Macclesfield, which are related only by their initial letter. But the great redoubtable Kensington, who threatened to become such a scene of suffragist slaughter as was looked upon by the "Sun of Australia," I myself was careful to abstain from going to a meeting which I was sure would degenerate into what it did—being one of those whose temperamental renders it impossible to resist the fascination of a free fight, which often carries with it the odour of subsequent retribution and regret. But, per contra, I took a step down to the House of Lords to see how the Scottish suffragists would support their plea of "votes for women" before the highest tribunal in the land; and I felt quite proud of the eloquence and ability of my pettifogging counterparts from Glasgow and St. Andrew. Had the latter been wearing the scarlet gown, which is still the garb of Scottish students, my heart—to compare small things with great—would have warmed to it as did that of the Duke of Argyll to the tartan plaid of Jeanie Deans, who had walked all the way from Auld Reekie to London to supplicate that the suffrage, but the love of mercy for her suffering Edie. "I know the full value of the hood," said his Grace, "and MacCallum's heart will be as cold as death when it does not warm to the tartan." Outside her special region of the tartan Scotland is rather a bare and colourless place; but the streets of three of her Universities, at least, are still as full as before the Reformation, with the tattered caps and the scarlet powns of students of both sexes, which splash the grey college squares with the picturesqueness of the past. Indeed, one of the most interesting sights in all broad Scotland is, in the words of Mr. Andrew Lang:

The drifting surf, the wintry town,  
The college of the scarlet gown,  
St. Andrew by the Northern sea,  
That is a haunted town to me.

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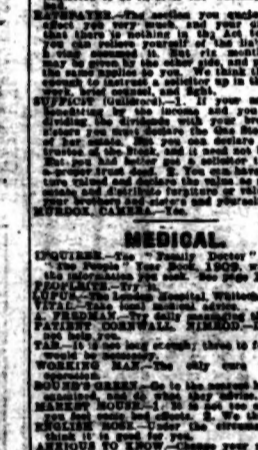
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## CORRESPONDENCE.

(Questions requiring to be answered the same week reach the office of "The People,"

## HER FATHER'S CRIME.

By GEORGE BRUCE.

## CHAPTER III.

## AT BELVOIR COURT.

Dinner was over at Belvoir Court, that little informal dinner to which Mrs. Carrington and her daughter had been invited. Among the other lady guests besides Mrs. and Miss Carrington was Mrs. Stanleigh, the vicar's wife and Arthur's mother. She was a sweet-faced, sweet-voiced lady, gentle of manner, sympathetic of nature, one of those large-hearted, tender women who have "mother" written large all over them. Her snowy hair framed features redolent of goodness, while her soft blue eyes reflected the beauty of her soul. In Dovecote Mrs. Stanleigh was simply worshipped by her husband's parishioners.

Another of the ladies present had been till recently a stranger to Dovecote. This was a Miss Dashwood, sister of Captain Dashwood, one of Lord Belvoir's most intimate friends. They had been staying some little time at the Court as the guests of Lord Belvoir.

"Capital fellow," was the masculine verdict on Captain Dashwood; "so awfully nice" was the feminine opinion. In features, his sister Octavia was the image of himself. The likeness Miss Dashwood bore to her brother was startling, though her voice was sweeter, her smile even more pleasing, her manner even more gracious. Like him, too, she was tall, with the figure and carriage of a goddess. The impression she created was most favourable, and universal delight was experienced and expressed when it became known that she would, in all probability, remain at the Court for some considerable time.

"Bella will be delighted to make your acquaintance, Miss Dashwood," said Mrs. Stanleigh, in her sweetest voice, and answering a question of Octavia's. She has heard so much about you from your brother, she says. Mrs. Stanleigh's way to say pleasant things to people. But, looking at the brilliant woman before her, she had inward misgivings as to whether her daughter would be quite so delighted to welcome Miss Dashwood as a friend when she saw her, for Mrs. Stanleigh belonged to the prim order of sisterhood.

Miss Dashwood smiled charmingly. The smile, brilliant as a flash of sunlight, revealed the fact that the lady was the fortunate possessor of two rows of dazzling white teeth. Some people, it is said, are born with them. Mrs. Stanleigh, however, had to be content with the people of Dovecote—hinted that the lady only smiled so frequently in order to show off her beautiful teeth.

"Indeed," answered Octavia, in that voice which was so much like her brother's. "Believe me, I shall be very pleased to know your daughter. She is not with you tonight?"

Mrs. Stanleigh gave her shoulders a depressing shrug. "No, unfortunately," she said. "Bella is the president of the Society for the Protection of Broken-hearted Damsels, you know, and this is one of her most important duties."

"Indeed," said Octavia again, inwardly wondering what were the aims and objects of the Society for the Protection of Broken-hearted Damsels. "What an indefatigable worker your daughter is!" remarked a lady who sat next to the vicar's wife. She was a woman neither old nor young, she had reached the problematical period of life. Her age it would be impossible to tell; it was something between thirty and fifty. She was a short, thin figure, thin-featured woman with a cold, business-like expression, and a restless eye of a hawk.

"It would be hard to name with any certainty. They appeared to be a strange combination of grey, blue, and green, the latter colour predominating. This lady was Mrs. Benton, a distant relative of Lord Belvoir. She was a widow, and prior to her elevation to her present position had governed the fortunes of an obscure boarding-house in Bloomsbury, where poverty lurked in the disguise of gentility. It was not a very remunerative undertaking, and Mrs. Benton, disheartened by circumstances, weary of the struggle of making both ends meet, had been only too thankful to resign it when the over-awing of the Belvoir household was offered her by her kinsman.

Dinner over, the ladies were conversing in the drawing-room, the gentlemen, freed from feminine restraint, were enjoying their usual after-dinner privileges. The vicar of Dovecote, who was a noted raconteur, had just finished the narration of an anecdote more redolent of wit than of wisdom, when Capt. Dashwood suddenly started up with an exclamation of annoyance. The others regarded him with surprise.

"My dear fellow, what's the matter?" queried his lordship, knocking off the ashes of his cigar with a trenchant memory again! exclaimed the captain. "It's a confounded nuisance. I have just remembered that I have one or two rather important letters that I must write and despatch to-night. I suppose you don't mind my taking them to my room?"

He turned to Lord Belvoir as he spoke. The latter smiled serenely. "Certainly not," he answered. "Jaggs is entirely at your disposal. But are the letters so important that they must go off to-night?"

"Yes, I will not be absent from my room for longer than I can help," Captain Dashwood answered smilingly. "Pray, excuse me." The next moment he had left the room.

"An uncommonly nice fellow," quoth the Rev. Mark Stanleigh; "always so full of go." "I like him immensely," said Doctor Leydon, the village practitioner. "Tells me he has been all over the world, nearly," put in Sir John Davis, a local baronet, who was noted for his inquisitiveness. "Turning towards Lord Belvoir," turning to him, said Lord Belvoir, "as Capt. Town, was the ready answer. There was one refreshing quality about Lord Belvoir—he was candid personified. He appeared to

Elma's lip curled contemptuously. "I understand," she said. "Belvoir Court is his prison—you his gaoler."

Lord Belvoir flushed slightly, his eyes flashed ominously. "Your decision must decide his fate," he replied. "I think it is best to warn you," he continued, "that you will find her greatly changed. But that is not to be wondered at, considering what he has suffered since the occurrence of that— that most unfortunate affair. But time presses—come! Control yourself, and do not be afraid. I shall be near at hand."

"You are very kind," Miss Carrington answered coldly. "but I do not think you will be required. Is he not my father?"

"I beg your pardon. This way, please."

As he spoke, he opened a small glass door. Passing through it, Elma found herself in a spacious corridor, which was very dimly lighted. Lord Belvoir, followed by Elma, walked to nearly the end of the corridor, where he paused outside a door.

"He is there waiting for you," he whispered in Elma's ear. "Go in, I will return for you in a quarter of an hour."

He gently, noiselessly, opened the door. With rapidly beating heart, almost suffocated by the tumult of emotions that surged through her being with faltering steps and trembling limbs, Elma Carrington passed slowly into the room.

Lord Belvoir's face, a handsome smile upon his lips, softly closed the door upon her.

"You are mine, my beautiful, sorrowful, dainty Elma," he muttered. There is no escape for you. Fate is too strong for you. And when you are mine, you are mine for ever."

He paused, drawing a deep breath; a cruel look came into his eyes, a look that boded ill for the future of Elma Carrington if ever she became Lady Belvoir.

For some moments Elma stood grasping the handle of the door, afraid to advance or retreat. She spoke in low subdued tones, as though labouring under emotion which he found it difficult to control. The sound was strangely familiar to her, and she wondered in a vague kind of way whether she still retained some lingering remembrance of that father who had been lost to her for so many long years.

"Who are you?" he asked gently, "and why are you here?"

The question sounded strange to Elma. Surely, it was such a query as she might well have addressed to him. Who was he? Could this be her father? This the John Carrington of whom her mother was never tired of speaking? Was this wreck of manhood the father of whom she fondly believed she still had some childish remembrance?

What a contrast to the father of her dreams! She shrank away with a startled exclamation, and with a look of horror, she saw that her father, who she had believed to be a man of noble bearing, was a man of low stature, with a thin, pale face, and a look of intense suffering.

"Oh! Elma, Elma," he cried, in tones of deepest agony, "do not—do not fear me; I shall not contaminate you!"

The spectacle of her father's grief distressed the girl beyond measure. Each sob thrilled her. Pity, an infinite rush of tenderness, usurped every other feeling in her breast. By an supreme effort she overcame her repugnance, and impulsively placed one arm lovingly round his neck.

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ship. Your appearance startled me, that was all. I was unprepared for such a change in you. You must have altered; you are so different from what I imagined."

"I have suffered," was the answer, in a gloomy tone. "God! how I have suffered! To leave my home, my father, to the influence of their passions, afflicted with the same agonies of remorse—the same tortures of an ever accusing conscience—that have tormented me, then the way of transgressors is indeed hard. God knows that I have bitterly repented. If I could undo the past, give back the life that I have taken, I would endure any torture, suffer any degradation. But I cannot, I cannot. I am a haunted man, doomed to an everlasting torment."

The agonised voice sounded like the despairing cry of a lost soul. It thrilled Elma to the core—all the pity in her nature went out to him. "My darling," said John Carrington after a slight pause. "It is like a gleam of Paradise to gaze upon your face; to hear your voice is like listening to heavenly music. Bless! Elma, Elma! I had pictured a very different meeting. Out there I have often dreamed of the kind of reunion ours would be when I returned to wife and child. But the golden visions were doomed to be disappointed. Instead of coming back full of happiness and hope, wealthy and prosperous, able to face the world I return a shattered creature, a piece of wrecked manhood, degrading of heart, shadowed in name, ruined in health, a man who has broken his father's laws whose freedom is at another's mercy."

"Father, control yourself," said Elma. "Why did you come back to England?"

"It was Lord Belvoir's command," Elma was the answer, "and— with intense bitterness—" the dog must obey its master."

"Father!" cried Elma, her face flushing. "What do you mean?"

"Ah, my child, you forget. I am at his mercy—in his power. Had I been at liberty to follow my own inclinations I should have gone to some place where I was unknown, and tried to atone for the past. I had intended to send for you and your mother, and we could have lived so happily across the seas. Happily, you and your mother would have been happy, while I— But there, why talk of a lost Paradise? He would not permit it. He insisted upon my coming to England."

"You mean Lord Belvoir?" said Elma, shortly.

"Yes, Lord Belvoir," said John Carrington. "He holds my destiny in his hands. After Joshua Morston's death, he shouldered my sword, and my luck changed for the better, and I saw every prospect of becoming a rich man. Then I began to dream of the possibility of making a new home in some place far from the scene of my crime. Belvoir—he was Raymond Lyndhurst then—helped me dream and build my castles. We often spoke of you in those days, and every scrap of news about you in your mother's letters was always eagerly devoured by him. We had got into the habit of showing each other letters from home. We were such chums, he and I, and every mail brought each of us a letter. And— and— hesitatingly, as if he were half-dismayed of what he was going to say, "I think he fell in love with you out there, from my account of you. One night, in just the way I— how I would like him for a son-in-law, and I— I loved him in those days—said I desired no greater happiness for my child than to see her the wife of such a man as he. And I meant it at that time. But— But— into his fortune and title," continued John Carrington after a pause. "He came over to England to take up his new position, leaving me to plod on. By a strange fatality his property was in the same neighbourhood as where you and your mother had taken up your residence. He saw me, and loved me. I have dozens of letters in which he speaks of you, praising your beauty of face and charm of manner. But your coldness towards him piqued and angered him. Your engagement to Arthur Stanleigh determined him upon a course of action. In order to gratify his desires, he wrote me a letter, pompously ordering me to return to England. If I refused, he would put the bloodhounds of the law upon my track. I dared not refuse his summons."

"I know, father, I know," said Elma, as her father paused. "But do not fear him. He shall never harm you, never."

"My noble Elma!" John Carrington cried, his voice trembling with emotion. "But I do not wonder at Belvoir's love for you. You have grown so beautiful—more beautiful than even your mother!" he sighed, then, "I have dozens of letters in which he speaks of you, praising your beauty of face and charm of manner. But your coldness towards him piqued and angered him. Your engagement to Arthur Stanleigh determined him upon a course of action. In order to gratify his desires, he wrote me a letter, pompously ordering me to return to England. If I refused, he would put the bloodhounds of the law upon my track. I dared not refuse his summons."

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less dread to hear the question her companion was about to put to her, for upon her answer rested a father's fate, a mother's happiness.

"Is it to be war or peace between us?" Lord Belvoir asked. "Will you be my wife?"

A tumult of emotions swept through Elma's breast. She could not sacrifice everything life was worth living for upon the altar of duty—love, hope, happiness, everything? And not only her own life would be wrecked, but Arthur Stanleigh's future would be blighted too.

"I am waiting for your answer, Miss Carrington."

She shivered as she heard him. Slowly she raised her eyes to his. "Will nothing else satisfy you?" she asked, a world of pleading in her voice. "Nothing?" Lord Belvoir answered coldly and decisively.

A long, long pause. And then slowly from her white lips came the one word, "Yes."

A smile of triumph flashed across Lord Belvoir's face as he heard her answer. He had won.

As the door closed behind Elma and Lord Belvoir John Carrington began pacing the room in a rapid manner that spoke of mental conflict.

"Curse on it all, on everything," he muttered, a dark frown upon his face. "My peerless Elma! Heaven! how beautiful she is. And must she be sacrificed to him, the basest, blackest scoundrel that ever walked the earth! My Elma, his wife, by Heaven, he shall never win her!"

(To be Continued.)

TAKE CARE OF YOUR STOMACH

Take care of your stomach and your health will take care of itself. That is the golden rule of correct living. Your stomach is the factory of your body. It is there that the raw material we call food is digested and made ready to be absorbed into your system and turned into blood, brain, bone, and sinew.

AND YOUR HEALTH

Will take care of itself

MOTHER SEIGEL'S SYRUP IS THE SURE MEANS.

It is True Economy to use VAN HOUTEN'S COCOA.

No other cocoa goes so far. No other cocoa has such strength and exquisite flavour.

THE COCOA YOU WILL ENJOY.



"Elma, Elma, have you no word to say to me?"

## THE VARIETY STAGE.

Herbert Shelley returns to London to-morrow, presenting his successful Irish play four times nightly at Camberwell and Walham Green. He has just completed a successful twenty-three weeks with Mr. Stoll.

On Boxing Day there will be two performances of the Xmas entertainment at the Royal Victoria Hall. It will be repeated each night until the 21st, when there will be a costume recital of "Faust."

London Pavilion's bill for the holidays is being largely augmented by Daisy Jerome, the Motramos, Elhel Hirschbels (a contralto new to the hall), Kit Keen, Russell Walllett, Chris Richards, Tom Lamore, Enid Errol, and the Ellwangers. The booking at the Empire for the Christmas holidays surpasses the records. For Boxing Night the demand has exceeded all calculations. Now is this to be wondered at, for the Christmas programme is sufficient to account for the demand.

Owing to the inability of the Committee of Freeholders to bring about the desired matches between Gutch, Hackenschmidt, Lemm, and Zybsco the wrestling craze seems to be "off" for the moment. Zybsco leaves for the Continent this week.

This year's World's Fair promises to be one of the best and biggest shows ever held at the Agricultural Hall. Apart from any number of new and up-to-date side shows, there will be numerous attractions, many of which will be free of extra charge.

"Bob" Fitzsimmons (together with his wife) will make his bow as an actor to a London audience to-morrow at the Oxford. Mr. and Mrs. Fitzsimmons will appear in a piece entitled "A Man's Man for a Day." We shall see the redoubtable "Bob" in an exhibition of ball punching and general athletic exercises.

Miss John Lawton will produce her travesty, "Why Did Third Floor Pass?" at the Metropolitan on the 28th inst. It is in two scenes—No. 1, Outside Terry's Theatre; No. 2, A Lodging House at Camberwell. The cast engaged includes Edward Thane, Dan Curson, Albert Mason, Selma Seafort, Daphne Williams and Gladys Lawson.

Attractions for this week at the Moss-Poll Empires are:—Hackett, Servais, Le Roy, Boco and Hackett, Holloway, Fred Kishman, in "G.P.O." and the Belshias; New Cross, Kate Curson and George Goldin; Stradford, Victoria Wanka, and Howell and Scott; Shepherd's Bush, George Auger and Co. in "Jack the Giant Killer," and George Lyndon and Co. in "The Last Master."

A real Christmas flavour will be imparted to the programme of the London Coliseum this week, when Mr. Joseph Hart's Polly Pickle's Pals from Fiddlers' Hall, a musical fantasy in one act, will be produced. There is plenty of variety in the bill. In addition to Miss Greene, Cecilia Loftus, and Carrie de Mar, Mademoiselle, the Russian Giant, will appear.

Mr. Oswald Stoll has very kindly given the use of the Coliseum for Tuesday afternoon for Sir William Trevelar, Bart., in aid of the Crippled Children's Fund, and the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs of London will attend in state, together with many civic dignitaries and other distinguished people. The programme to be submitted will be contributed to by one of the most remarkable gatherings of popular favourites ever assembled under one roof.

This week, prior to the production of "To-morrow" at the London Hippodrome on Boxing Day, Mr. Joseph Hart will present the "Jain-Dears." The scene representing Toyland, Dreamland, and the "Down Under" in the Cornfield. Sir Genial Cave-Brown-Cave will be retained in the bill. New turns include those of Calceado, the wire king; the Lamour, Maud Reches and her monkeys; The Huxley Brothers, the Dundee Troupe, and the Corradinis.

During Christmas week there are to be special attractions at the Fun City at Olympia. The programme of the free variety entertainment includes the Eight Sunrises, a wonderful dancing troupe, including the Apache dancers, the Horshams, acrobats from the Folies Bergeres; the Chandon Trio, gymnasts; Levard, society entertainer, etc. On Boxing Day there is to be a specially arranged programme, and there will be six performances, every two hours from 12 a.m., including Woodward's Seals, the Breton Troupe, and Judge's Performing Cockatoo.

The pantomime of "Robinson Crusoe" will be given for the first time on Christmas Eve at the Crystal Palace. On the following days, and until further notice, performances will take place at 2.30 and 7.30 p.m. In the centre transept, facing the royal boxes, Mr. George O. Hart has arranged for an old English circus. This will be contained in and well warmed by a monster heating pipe, and there will be seating accommodation for about 1,000 people. In the arch here there will be a "Tulipade Fair."

The programme of attractions to be presented at the Alexandra Palace during the Christmas holidays is both lengthy and varied. First and foremost there is to be a grand circus company direct from Hengler's, under the direction of Mr. Austin Fryer. There will be daring riders and daring equestrians, gymnasts and jugglers, highly trained animals, and a host of clowns, including Comical Ochs, whose drolleries and witticisms will ensure an entertainment devoid of a single dull moment.

Described as a musical "screw-play," with an "Acro and Aerobio," Mr. Paul Hubert's bright and amusing piece, "The Fly by Night," serves to introduce Miss Elinae Terrell and Mr. Seymour Hilde to the Palace—their first combined visit, we believe, to the "halls." It also furnishes Miss Terrell with a couple of pretty songs, and allows Mr. Hilde ample license to frolic in his most irresponsible manner. The little play is admirably staged, and is a pleasing addition to an already attractive programme.

For Christmas week and the matinee on Boxing Day there will be a strong programme at the Alhambra. Leonora, in "Keriscio"; Miss Britta, in the romantic ballet, "Paquita"; the Max Wessely Troupe, in their juggling pantomime; the Ten Ji Japanese company of magicians; the Four Black Diamonds; Harry Helms, the French vocalist; and "The Two Flaps" diversions, so to make up the bill. The Cinematograph productions of eminent French actors and actresses will be changed, Mr. Alfred Meul presenting the third of the series, "The Red Hand."

The Christmas programme at the Royal Standard Music Hall is a long and strong one. Harry Tate in "Mozart," Will English, Ray Marshall, and the Brown and Kelly Combination are among the prominent turns. Daisy James, Margaret Huntley's sketch, "That Girl Carrots," and the three Royal Drednoughts (rifle shots), were the particular stars of the past week at the Standard. Another strong card was the Empire Trio in "Park Fete." They have new business, their vocal efforts are harmonious, and their by-play is decidedly diverting. The female impersonation and dancing of one of the trio is very good, and in each case there were unmistakable indications of popular appreciation on the part of an audience accustomed to nothing second-rate.

On and after to-morrow Mr. Charles Urban will, in surrender to the ruling spirit of the season, supplement the always interesting "Urbanora" exhibition of animated pictures at the Palace of Theatre by a film which may best be described as a biocopic joke. Primarily representing a globe-trotter's flying trip through the living scenes in Switzerland and Sweden and Norway are presented at the rapid rate at which the flying tripper sees them; steamboats arrive and depart with dramatic velocity; while a wild, Swiss church parade signifies the rapidity of hill-climbing.

## LONDON PANTOMIME FAVOURITES.



Marie George Drury Lane



Dorothy Firman - The Coronet



Puccinia Drury Lane



Marie Wilson Drury Lane



George Mozart Kings Theatre Hammersmith



Harry Rhodora The Shakes Clapham



Phyllis Dare &amp; Dan Rolyan The Adelphi



Constance Hyem The Coronet



Grace Gray The Hippodrome



Dolly Crake The Lyceum

## THEATRE NOTES.

"Little Red Riding Hood" is due at the Dalcroze Theatre on Thursday. A good company and good scenery are promised, with a harlequinade.

"The Antelope," as predicated from the start, comes to an end of its brief run at the Waldorf as these lines go to press on Saturday night.

For the Christmas holiday season Mr. Brandon Thomas has arranged for a run of "Charley's Aunt" through three weeks at the Aldwych.

Miss Evelyn Millard, instead of reviving "The Adventure of Lady Ursula" for matinees only, has just decided to put the piece into the evening bill direct on January 5.

A real old-fashioned pantomime, with transformation scenes and a harlequinade, will be produced at the West London Theatre on Boxing Day. The story selected is "Cinderella."

Mr. Leonard Boyne's "Raffles" Company will again start on tour on January 4. Mr. Elio Norwood has been engaged to play the title role, and the tour will be under the direction of Mr. Augustus Bingham.

There will be a matinee at the Shaftesbury Theatre on Boxing Day, when "The Lyons Mail" will be played for the first time. The Prince and Princess of Wales and Prince Edward witnessed the performance last Thursday, this being the sixth visit of Royalty to the Shaftesbury during Mr. H. B. Irving's season.

The pantomime at the Fulham Theatre is evidently to become a financial as well as an artistic success, as seats are being booked already for several weeks of its run. "Cinderella" is to be a clear, coherent, interesting story of the fairytale, enhanced by picturesque environment and hearty, wholesome, honest humour.

Brixton Theatre pantomime, to be produced on Boxing Day at 2, is founded on the popular subject, "Dick Whittington and His Cat." The book is by Newman Maurice; music by Frank Bradwell. A strong company has been engaged, including Miss Maud Edmond as Dick, Miss Flora Morris as Alice, Mr. Newman Maurice as the Cook, Mr. Will Smith as the Cat.

Mr. Walter will play "Henry V." nightly at the Lyric through the holidays, extending to the end of January, when the performances of Shakespeare's patriotic play have to be continued at matinees only. For the evening bill after January a new modern piece, romantic in character, entitled, "The Chief of Staff," will be produced, for which Mr. Walter has engaged to impersonate his heroine Miss Evelyn D'Alroy.

"Dick Whittington," at the Coronet, which opens to-morrow, is to be very "municipal" the first week, for on Tuesday the mayor, aldermen and councillors of Paddington, for Wednesday those of Kensington; and for Thursday those of Hammersmith will give civic countenance, and at the same time witness the popular members of their respective boroughs being entertained, as Mr. Robert Arthur has closed the gallery and amphitheatre to the public for these three evenings to allow some joy to enter into many sorrowful homes this Yuletide.

At the King's, Hammersmith, the pantomime this year promises to be more elaborate and, if possible, more successful than ever. The subject is "The Babes in the Wood." Mr. Geo. Mozart will be the very Wicked Uncle, and Messrs. Hall and Earle the particularly polite robbers, which is equivalent to saying that the fun will be a predominant feature. Miss Marie Dainton will be the Maid Marion of the production and Miss Winnie Browne the bold Robin Hood.

The Elephant and Castle pantomime, due on Boxing Day afternoon, will be, as already announced, "The Babes in the Wood," and judging by the list of artists engaged, there is every indication that Mr. Charles Barnard's production will eclipse anything of the kind ever attempted at this popular house. Messrs. Barretts and Knowles, who last season created a great reputation for themselves in pantomime in Birmingham, will supply the major portion of the humorous element and their grotesque fight, which they will introduce, is sure to attract large audiences to the theatre.

"Votes for Women" is now the cry of the ladies adorning the stage, many of whom, backed up by a considerable percentage of dramatic and dramatics, have constituted themselves into the Actresses' Franchise League. On Thursday afternoon the league, under a male president, Mr. Forbes Robertson (in the absence of their actual "head and front," Mrs. Kendal), held their first meeting at the Criterion, and, to the number of nearly 400, passed a resolution unanimously, that this meeting of actresses calls upon the Government immediately to extend the franchise to women; that women claim the franchise as a necessary protection for the workers under modern industrial conditions, and maintain that by their labour they have earned the right to this defence. The vice-presidents offer a formidable array of suffragists, including the Misses Violet and Irene Vanbrugh, Miss Gertrude Elliott, Mrs. Langtry, Miss Emma, Miss Eva Moore, and Mrs. Lucette Ryley. Among others enrolled as members are the Misses Ellen Terry, Compton, Fanny Brough, Lillian Braithwaite, Decima Moore, Lancaster Wallis. Despite its "immediate" requisition of the Parliamentary franchise the league is not militant.

## When Out of Sorts

the wisest course is undoubtedly to take Beecham's Pills. By so doing you call to your aid one of the most reliable curative agents known, and ensure a speedy and natural recovery. The "out of sorts" condition being almost always due to a derangement of the digestive organs, it is obvious that what is required is a medicine that can successfully deal with all disorders of the Stomach, Liver, and Bowels. If you

## Take

Beecham's Pills you lay the foundation of good sound robust health and incidentally remove the "out of sorts" condition. The immediate effect of these pills is to put the digestion thoroughly in order, and when once this is achieved perfect health cannot fail to follow. Unlike the merely temporary effects of stimulants, a permanent exhilaration that springs from steady nerve force results from taking

**BEECHAM'S PILLS.**

Sold everywhere in boxes, price 1/6 (6d pills) & 2/6 (12d pills).

## CALL TO ARMS.

"PEOPLE" READERS  
MAKE MANY SUGGESTIONS

Letters from all parts of the Empire continue to pour in as a result of "Patriot's" article in "The People," advocating a compulsory period of training for every youth.

As will be seen from the correspondence published below our readers make many suggestions in the direction indicated, some of which might well claim the attention of the authorities.

## UTILISE OUR LOVE OF SPORT.

As we are a sporting nation infuse a sporting spirit into the rifle clubs. In each county let the well-to-do subscribe to local rifle clubs, as they do to flower shows, cricket and football clubs, etc. Let the four best shots of one village compete against those of a neighbouring village, and as far as practicable, arrange a competition among a number of villages. Similarly arrange competitions among the wards of the towns. Let Sunday afternoons, say, from 2 to 5, be used for practising purposes. In real warfare every day of the week is used for military purposes. Waterloo was fought on a Sunday. Let the two or three months between leaving school and going to Oxford or Cambridge be spent in camp.

## IS ENGLAND ASLEEP?

We are told we are asleep. I don't believe it. Sleeping people do not sleep much. I think you will find them very much awake—but callously indifferent. Do you wonder? In the case of invasion, if the worst came we would only have to wait until the enemy was on the coast—either to die in warfare or else of starvation. We are asked to train ourselves to protect—what? whom? We are expected to go to the front and fight. What about our wives and children while we are away training? We would get about 1s. 1d. a day—our wives nothing—and, well, that is only one of two things from hand to mouth previous to going into camp, can you expect us to go away and let our wives starve? And if we are fortunate enough to be in work before we go we would run the possible chance of losing our jobs, because you must be aware that the majority of work is only casual. For myself, I do not care. But I am not going to give my wife and children the expense of my wife and children to learn to protect the interests of men who, while floating our dear old flag at the top of their ships, with every nationality under the sun.

## ALL SHOULD SERVE.

Everybody should serve at least three years in the army, rich and poor alike. Then, and not till then, will the soldier be respected and looked up to as he should be, instead of looked down on and slighted as he is at present.

## ONE IN HIDING.

**WANTED—MANAGEMENT.**  
The want of a good Army is due not so much to the apathy of the public, but to the want of government, or say management. The public are the crowd, and the crowd want to be led. They do, and they generally do it, and get more satisfaction out of it than if they were left alone. In Australia the schoolboys are all drilled, wear khaki clothes, and carry a rifle, and are most anxious to rush off to drill on Saturday afternoons in the parks and are much better for it. But you must have interest and management.

## CADET BATTALIONS.

At the present moment statistics will show that the battalions to be the finest recruiting medium for the Regular Army, both as regards quantity and quality. It is necessary to recognise the distinction between cadet battalion and cadet corps, the latter are principally attached to public schools; the members embrace a class that certainly could not choose the ranks as a profession, being in most cases the sons of well-to-do people. The cadet battalions draw its recruits from lads of all classes, past their school days. It is complete with officers, staff, details, bands, discipline, and everything exactly as a territorial or battalion of the Line. It offers the lad a real taste of soldiering, and at present at least 10 per cent. like it and go direct into the army, not from lack of work but from choice, as an age when they know their own mind. I have seen these lads return in a few weeks splendidly equipped for the Army in their Regular uniforms. It can be shown that these lads are a better, almost a better, recruit than the cadet battalions increased in number. Were the cadet battalions increased to one million, the interest shown would probably cause a greater influx into the Army through them.

## SOLDIERS BEFORE ALIENS.

Without going so far as Conscription, would it not be employment for the soldier to get the majority of whom come home to England and are unable to get work, although they are the best of the trying. This recruiting for the want of men will be coming home from abroad on the Reserve, the same as last recruiting season, the larger part of them will not be able to get work at all. These men enlisted when the South African War was on, and the majority held medals for the campaign. But medals are not the best of the trying. If anyone does not believe this letter, let them walk from Cambridge-road, E. to Camden, and they will see the numbers of S.A. medals in pawnbrokers' windows. I think that is the last thing a soldier would pawn. And these notices for the names of the soldiers are as present it appears Englishmen are wanted on special occasions, such as when war breaks out, or other small jobs foreigners do not do about.

## 35,000 LOST TO THE COUNTRY.

We cannot afford to leave things to chance as we have done before, trusting to luck and our great name as Empire. There are over 35,000 men able-bodied and medically fit who have completed their service with the Colours and Reserve, the majority of whom have served through the Boer War. Having seen hard service and being well used to discipline they are the best of the material to form a third line of defence. These are lost to the country. Why? Because on the expiration of their service they are sent to the Colonies, where they have no chance of re-engagement beyond the Section D now in vogue. W. J. W.

## A NOVEL SUGGESTION.

Why not place in the Education Act raising the compulsory age up to which male children must attend school from 14 to 18 years, the last year or two to be spent in the training of arms and discipline? W. L. L.

## WILLING TO SERVE AT 76.

I am a discharged sergeant from an Infantry Regiment, and served 22 years in the army, from 1881 to 1903. I also served in another expedition in that country. I joined a corps of Volunteers in 1895, and was an officer in the 1st Battalion. I was discharged on the age limit, and was asked if I was willing to serve if called in for home defence. I served in the 1st Battalion, and was willing. Let others do likewise.

## TARIFF DOES IT.

AMERICAN WORKING MEN  
AND PROTECTION.

That the American working man is fully alive to the benefits he derives from Protection, and is equally familiar with the disadvantages which follow the adoption of a Free Trade policy, has been fully demonstrated in Washington, where the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives is gathering details concerning tariff revision. Without exception the trade unions of the United States are opposed to the lowering of the tariff. The attitude of the Committee by Mr. J. M. Stuart, the representative of the textile workers of Pennsylvania. He said: "The working men of this country are intelligent enough to decide what they want for themselves, and you will find any delegation of working men testifying that the benefits of Free Trade are such as they desire. In every instance they have pronounced for the continuation of the tariff. Here is one of the strongest arguments why. Here is an English newspaper. It contains a picture of an English working man with his tools idle. Here is 'John Bull' standing with all his goods packed up, and here you see the nations of the world building a tariff wall; and this English working man says to 'John Bull': 'They build that wall to keep you and me out and give their own working men a job. Why don't you stop their dumping and give me some work?'"

## "Look After Your Own Country First."

Recently I was in London, and, riding on an omnibus, I asked a man a question in reference to where the post office was. Seeing I was an American, he said to me immediately: "What do you think about the question of a tariff for England?" "If I were an Englishman, I should be for a tariff," I said. "You would," he said. "Why?" "Because," I said, "I believe for you, as an Englishman, it would be the best thing in the world." "Don't you know that it would work against the United States?" he asked. "My friend," I answered, "never look out for somebody else; you look out for your own country first." And that, gentlemen, is the principle we should not legislate for England, Germany, or France, or any other nation in the world, but for ourselves.

## Facts v. Theories.

The British working man is idle because the German is flooding the English markets to-day with goods manufactured in Germany at lower wages. They say labour organisations keep up wages and maintain employment, but it's not so. The tariff does it. Take Europe. The organisation of labour there has helped England, but the organisation of labour in England has not given the English working man work. The fact that there has been more idleness in England this last year than in any previous period demonstrates this. As working men we give you facts, not theories. We do not come here to plead for a confederacy law. We come here to plead for the tariff that has produced the best results that have ever been produced in this country."

## German Prosperity.

The impressions of the secretary of a Commission of five, recently sent by the textile workers of the heavy woollen district of Yorkshire to inquire into the conditions of the work of their trade in Germany, are published in "The Standard." The Commission found the state of affairs to be precisely the opposite of what they had been led to expect, and that instead of being down-trodden serfs, large numbers of them were employed, better treated, provided for in sickness and age, and altogether more happy and comfortable than their English fellow-workers. The account given by the secretary of the Commission is as follows:—In Germany we find that the condition of the workers are being vastly improved at the expense of a comparatively new industry; while in Free Trade Yorkshire, the heart of the woollen cloth trade, wages are falling, employment is decreasing, and the cost of living is increasing. Nobody denies in Germany that the textile industry there owes its growth to Protection.

## Compulsory Insurance.

Every worker in receipt of not more than £100 a year is compelled to insure, and the benefits received are having a most favourable effect upon the community. Thrift and self-help are inculcated, and neither a sick man nor an injured worker is allowed to fall into a state of destitution. Every provision is made for the protection of life and limb in the factory, hygienic laws are enforced, and when the worker falls sick no expense is spared in order to bring about his restoration to health. In the German factories, in nearly every case, there is far more working space for the employed than in our Yorkshire mills. The people are more comfortably accommodated, they have easier tasks to perform, they seem happy and contented. In physique both the men and women compare most favourably with our own people, and all the people look well nourished. Again and again has it been found upon our notice that the German operative does not kill himself with overwork as in our mills. In Germany working people and a large number of the middle classes live in flats. Even in Berlin two rooms may be rented for £6 a year, three rooms for £7 10s., and four rooms for £9 to £10 10s.

## FOR WOULD-BE ORATORS.

Those desirous of mastering the art of public speaking will welcome the appearance of "Hints on Platform Speaking" in order to the "People," published from St. Stephen's Chambers, Westminster, price 6d. The author, Mr. Hugh Thornton, has dealt with the subject with rare insight and makes many suggestions which will put the would-be orator on the right path. Special chapters are devoted to the conduct of Debating Societies, and the whole book is well worth careful perusal.

## TAXIMETER FRAUDS.

Mr. Gladstone, replying in Parliament to a question by Mr. Geo. Cook, M.P., states that it is a fact that in some instances taximeters have been tampered with, and the Public Carriage Department at New Scotland Yard have under consideration the introduction of checks, which it is hoped will prevent this in future.

## TURKEY'S NEW ERA.

PARLIAMENT OPENED BY  
THE SULTAN.

The new era in Turkey has been inaugurated by the Sultan amid scenes of great rejoicing. His Majesty quitted Yildiz Kiosk in a state coach, accompanied by Ali Djevdad Bey, First Secretary of the Imperial Chancellery, and proceeded to the House of Parliament for the opening ceremony. His Majesty was loudly cheered by immense crowds along the route. The new Parliament meets in the same Chamber where Mehmet's short-lived Parliament assembled 33 years ago. The building faces the square of St. Sophia. The hall is on the first floor, and is of moderate dimensions. The Sultan reached the Chamber at one o'clock and entered the Imperial box, where he stood during the ensuing ceremony, the deputies also standing.

## The Royal Speech.

The Speech from the Throne was read by Ali Djevdad Bey. It expressed his Majesty's pleasure at restoring the Constitution, and referred with regret to Bulgaria's "deviation from the path of loyalty." Regret was further expressed at Austria-Hungary's "illegal move in proclaiming the annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina." The hope was expressed that with the help of the great friendly Powers these questions would be favourably and peacefully settled. In referring to the Budget, the Speech stated that the strengthening of the army and navy will occupy the most serious attention of the

## CARRIE NATION.

ADDRESS TO GLASGOW  
MAGISTRATE.

Whatever may be said of the reception of Mrs. Carrie Nation, the famous saloon smasher, by the Glasgow crowd, the police authorities there have treated her with sufficient courtesy. She has made her appearance at the Central Police Court, not as a prisoner, but in her usual role of temperance advocate. She arrived at the police court in St. Andrew's in a cab, and was led upstairs by Chief Supt. Orr, who took her into the magistrates' room, where she was introduced to Police Judge Steele, the presiding magistrate; Dr. Geo. Neilson, the procurator fiscal, and Mr. Archibald Young, the assessor. She had a few minutes' talk with Police Judge Steele, and when he took his seat on the bench Mrs. Nation was conducted to the front row in the court by Supt. Orr, who placed her alongside the young woman from the Salvation Army, Captain Legge, who is in regular attendance at the court.

## She Addresses the Magistrate.

Mrs. Nation watched the progress of the judicial business quietly, but with eager interest. It was not a heavy list. There were only 17 cases. Six of these were charges of drunkenness—three against men and an equal number against women. When the business, which lasted half an hour, came to an end, Mrs. Nation told Supt. Orr that she would like to address the magistrate. This request was communicated to Dr. Neilson, who asked

## WIT AND HUMOUR

AS EXEMPLIFIED BY  
BENCH AND BAR.

"The Wit and Oratory of the Bench and Bar" was the subject chosen by Mr. Crispe, K.C., for his farewell address at St. Andrew's Hall. Mr. Crispe, who has recently retired, had for audience a brilliant company of legal lights, including the Lord Chief Justice, who presided. Mr. Crispe said he was compelled to add a rider to the title of his lecture, and extend it to "The Wit and Oratory of the Bench and Bar; Past and Present." He hoped his reason would offend no one. His view was—for what it was worth—that oratory at the bar was practically moribund. As to that he was "unlucky to have a consensus of the Junior Bar in his favour. Sir Henry Hawkins and Justice Day as compars at the bar, were two of the wittiest members, but in a different way. Sir Henry apparently always appreciated his own witticisms. There was always an air about him of "Do better than that, if you can." With Day there was a seeming absence of consciousness of the good things he said. For the moment he could only recall from memory two instances of Hawkins—one at the bar, the other from the Bench. In an action brought by a young lady to recover the amount of two promissory notes given her by an elderly admirer, Hawkins, who represented the defendant, asked if his name was Richard. She answered, "Yes." "And I think you sometimes

## JOHN BULL'S CHRISTMAS TOAST.



Copyright.] [Drawn Specially for "The People" by J. J. PROCTOR.  
JOHN BULL: "Here's to our brethren across the seas. May the ties which bind us to them grow stronger, and may we soon see them at our festive board."

Government. Other important Bills would also be introduced. In conclusion, the deputies were welcomed and the Imperial will expressed for the jealous guarding of the Constitution. This passage was greeted with loud applause. A prayer was then offered invoking the Divine blessing on the Constitution and Parliament, after which the Sultan addressed a few words to the deputies. His Majesty then returned to Yildiz Kiosk amid enthusiastic cheers from enormous crowds.

## King Edward's Message.

King Edward has sent the following telegram to the Sultan of Turkey:—London, Dec. 17, 1903, 8 a.m.

I desire to convey to your Imperial Majesty my sincere congratulations on the assembly of the Imperial Ottoman Parliament. It is my earnest prayer that its activity may conduce to the happiness of all your Majesty's subjects, promote the prosperity and welfare of your country, and maintain it in cordial and peaceful relations with other countries.

The following message was also despatched:—

His Majesty's Government to Ottoman Parliament.

Foreign Office, Dec. 17, 1903, 8 a.m.

His Britannic Majesty's Government desire to express to the Ottoman Parliament, on the auspicious occasion of its assembly, their cordial good wishes for the success of its deliberations, which they trust will conduce to the prosperity and welfare of the Ottoman nation and strengthen the ties of friendship between the two countries.

## TAXIMETER FRAUDS.

Mr. Gladstone, replying in Parliament to a question by Mr. Geo. Cook, M.P., states that it is a fact that in some instances taximeters have been tampered with, and the Public Carriage Department at New Scotland Yard have under consideration the introduction of checks, which it is hoped will prevent this in future.

her to go into the witness-box. Stepping into it, Mrs. Nation told about a man who was tried in the United States for murdering his wife, and who maintained that he alone was not responsible for what he had done. The prosecutor and the magistrate, who were in favour of the opening of saloons, had, he said, also something to do with the crime.

## Memorial Watchers.

She had been in a great many police courts and gaols, Mrs. Nation went on to say, but she had never seen anything that was worse at the moment than the women she had seen that morning in the court who were charged with drunkenness. Then Mrs. Nation said impressively to Police Judge Steele: "If you want to get rid of your criminals, magistrates, and rid of the crime, you will have to appear before the Court of Judgment, and if you want to get approval you should use what power you have to close these saloons. I am very much obliged to you for your kindness." Having concluded her speech, to which Police Judge Steele listened without comment, Mrs. Nation left the court. By her request Supt. Orr took her into the chief constable's room, where she had a five minutes' talk with Mr. Stevenson, the chief constable, on the evils of the liquor traffic and the granting of licenses. She presented him with a memorial miniature hatchet.

## CLERIC AND WOMAN.

In the case of Edw. Rhodes, a clergyman who, as reported in "The People" last week at Cardiff Police Court for an alleged act of impropriety, Mr. G. P. Norcliffe, who appeared for the defence, had lodged an appeal against the conviction, to be heard at the next quarter sessions.

We are asked to state that it was Insp. C. Connor who, when sergeant in charge of Reading Police Station, took the first charge in the case of the notorious Mrs. Dyer.

## PARLIAMENTARY INFORMATION.

"The People" Year Book, 1903. Of all Newsagents, 2s.

## A LOST LAWSUIT.

RECTOR'S EVIDENCE  
DISBELIEVED.

In the Chancery Division Justice Swinfen Eady dismissed with costs the action by the Rev. Thos. Norton, rector of Wyehing, Sittingbourne, against his brother-in-law, Mr. Thos. Hamilton Fox and Mr. Walter St. John Fox, of Oak Brewery, Farnborough. Plaintiff claimed that an assignment of his property made by him in 1896 to his brother-in-law was really only a security for money provided by the Messrs. Fox on his behalf, and that, subject to the security, they held the property on trust for plaintiff's wife and children. If the transaction was really a sale, then he asked to have it determined that it was "a catching and unconscionable bargain, entered into by him without independent advice and in ignorance of the true effect of it."

## Unreliable Evidence.

His lordship, in giving judgment, said he was glad that he had the opportunity of closely observing plaintiff's demeanour while giving evidence. He replied to the questions with a vigour that was surprising. He was most emphatic and positive in the answers he gave. Many of the answers were manifestly untrue. He evinced the greatest distrust and hostility to Mr. Phillips (the solicitor who acted for all parties, but not without advising plaintiff to have independent advice). He made suggestions against Mr. Phillips for which there was admittedly no foundation whatever, and the conclusion his lordship had formed with regard to plaintiff's evidence was that he was unable to place any reliance upon it, or believe anything he said.

## Action Wholly Failed.

With regard to Mr. Phillips, his lordship accepted his evidence completely. He had for years given great assistance to plaintiff. After hearing defendant's evidence, his lordship was entirely satisfied that the truth was on their side. He had no doubt that the real motive of Messrs. Fox was affection for their sister, and that they had no intention of making any profit out of their sister's misfortune. Both the brothers, acting from the best of motives, incurred heavy obligations to prevent their sister's home being broken up. But that did not constitute a trust. The sale was fair, just and reasonable, and the best course possible, and was in plaintiff's interest. It saved him from poverty and the sequestration of his living. His house, with the furniture, was left undisturbed up to the present. If in equity plaintiff had a right to have the sale set aside, which his lordship was satisfied he had not, he had lost it by acquiescence and delay. The action wholly failed.

## PENSION CLAIMS.

## HOW A TOTAL OF 599,027 APPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN DEALT WITH.

Mr. Lloyd-George gives the following particulars regarding claims for old-age pensions received up till the 31st inst. The number of claims sent in were:—

England	343,611
Wales	2,407
Scotland	71,616
Ireland	208,135
Total claims received	625,779

The following shows how the claims have been dealt with:—

Grants recommended	492,028
Not recommended	42,158
Ineligible	2,407
Partially investigated	405,604
Not yet investigated	43,043

## NEXT GENERAL ELECTION.

CHELSEA.—Mr. S. J. G. Hoare (U.) has been selected.

LEICESTER.—Mr. J. F. Fraser (U.), who twice contested Huddersfield, has been adopted.

WIMBORNE.—Mr. G. A. Lloyd (U.), who was recently adopted, has resigned, as he is about to leave for India.

SUNDERLAND.—Mr. Samuel Storey and Mr. Jno. Knott, head of the Prince Line of steamships, have accepted invitations to stand as Tariff Reform candidates.

HANTS (E.).—Mr. Bishop's Stortford branch of the Tariff Reform League has declined to accept any candidate who will not, without reservation, give support to the full Unionist programme as declared by Mr. Balfour and Mr. Chamberlain.

## RADICAL M.P. REVOLTS.

Mr. D. A. Thomas, M.P. for Merthyr Tydfil, has informed the Radical whip that he does not desire to receive the official party summons any more. The cause of Mr. Thomas's revolt is the non-fulfilment by the Government of their pledges on the Welsh Disestablishment question, and his desire to identify himself with the formation of a new Welsh Liberal League, the chief purpose of which will be the advocacy on new lines of the disestablishment of the Church in Wales, and the running of candidates pledged to its support in Welsh constituencies at the next general election.

## "WILL WORKMAN" ON SOCIALISM.

Under the auspices of the London Municipal Society, Mr. Willie Dyson "Will Workman of The People" delivered an address at the Caxton Hall, Westminster, on "Socialism." Sir H. Samuel presided. In a closely reasoned speech of nearly an hour's duration "Will Workman" exposed some of the many fallacies of Socialism, and at the close of his address was subjected to a 40 minutes' bombardment with questions. These he answered in a thoroughly convincing manner, the prompt way in which he turned the tables on his questioners being much enjoyed by all save the interupters. On the motion of Mr. Francis Hughes (chief Conservative M.P.), seconded by Lord Ronald Dunsford, Mr. Dyson was cordially thanked for his instructive and masterly speech.

## INSPECTOR MACKAY.

Sub-insp. Francis Mackay, long associated with the C Division, has been, upon the Commissioner's recommendation, specially promoted by the Secretary of State to the rank of chief inspector. Mr. Mackay was an important witness at the Police Commission, and is well known in connection with the "white slavery" traffic.

THE WEEK AT  
WESTMINSTER.

## Lords and Commons.

With the exception of what must certainly be called a great speech on Indian affairs by Lord Morley on Thursday, the week has not been one of any particular interest so far as concerns the debates in either House. It has been a clearing up time, preparatory to the prorogation and the ringing down of the curtain on a laborious but, from the point of view of first-class measures, a barren session. What interest there has been has been fairly divided between the Lords and the Commons, and as a matter of fact many of the subjects have been identical in both Houses, for the reason that Bills had reached the stages when they passed backwards and forwards between the two branches of the Legislature. On Monday the Upper House sat until midnight discussing the second reading of the Port of London Bill, on which sharp differences of opinion were revealed. Lord Ritchie of Dundee moved its rejection, and Lord Avebury also spoke strongly against the measure, which in the opinion of those concerned, would disastrously affect the trade and commerce of the port. On the other hand, Lord Milner supported the proposals as constituting the best way out of the difficult condition of affairs. Finally the Bill passed both Houses without vital amendment.

## Big and Little Scotland.

In the Commons on Monday the chief business was the third reading of the Coal Mines (Eight Hours) Bill, moved by Mr. Gladstone in a speech poor in argument and lukewarm in advocacy. He even went so far as to declare that while, during what is known as the transition period, there might be some increase in the cost of production, in the end the consumer would gain rather than lose by the Bill's operation. Lord R. Cecil and Lord Castlereagh were responsible for a motion of rejection, which secured the support of the leader of the Opposition, who challenged the Government to reconcile their scheme with their views as to unemployment. For some minutes the Bill, said Mr. Balfour, would spell disaster, and the Government were thus jeopardising the employment of miners at a time when they found it necessary to encourage relief works for the unemployed at the cost of the ratepayers. The Unionists might well find a good election slogan in "The big coal scutt and the little coal scutt." The Bill having been read a third time by 224 votes to 89, provoked a long second reading debate in the Lords on Tuesday, where it met with considerable opposition, although it was accorded a second reading by 121 to 64. To cut a long story short the Lords amended the Bill in Committee, and when it returned to the Commons, the Government, in spite of Labour and Radical discontent, showed their wisdom in agreeing to exclude both windings from the operation of the Act as soon as it comes into force. It is now an 8½ hours Bill as at first proposed.

## Children and Bats.

Tuesday in the Commons, which sat until the small hours, was in the main concerned with the Lords' amendments to the Children's Bill, amendments which the Government admitted were made on the advice of their representatives, a fact which Mr. Balfour naturally seized upon to point out how fortunate it was that we still had an Upper Chamber that had been able to make a number of important alterations which the Commons had not been able to discuss. The proposal that children up to the age of 14 should be excluded from public-house bars—one of the provisions of the defunct Licensing Bill—was denounced by Mr. Jesse Collins as class legislation by those who did not understand the requirements of the poor. The amendment provoked much feeling, and was ultimately withdrawn. Before the debate ended, the Government, with characteristic inconsistency, excluded licensed premises in Ireland, where business unconnected with the sale of liquor was also carried on, from that section of the Bill which prevents children entering bars.

## Lord Morley and India.

All interest, as I have already indicated, centred on Thursday in the Upper Chamber, where Lord Morley, whose indisposition had delayed his speech, explained the proposals for Indian Reform. They are chiefly directed to associating natives with the Government of our great Eastern Dependency, to increasing the number of members, both of the Viceroy's Legislative Council and of the Provincial Legislative Councils, combining the system of election, widening the range of subjects which may be debated, and drawing some of the new representatives from the Indian community. Except in the case of the Governor-General's Council, the "official majority" is to be abandoned. In an address of an hour's duration, delivered with force and animation, and rising at times to real oratorical power, Lord Morley justified the policy of reform, declaring that by persevering with them in face of the action of extremists and irreconcilables was no concession to violence; it was a policy of "standing to their guns." He refused, he said, to take too gloomy a view of the state of affairs in India. There was no fear of a general rising; the risk was that there might be a general panic due to the terrorism of the Anarchists.

## Saturday and the End.

Both Houses sat yesterday, and the main business of interest was the rapid passage of Lord R. Cecil's Bill, the outcome of the Albert Hall pandemonium, making the disturbance of a public meeting an offence punishable at law. To-morrow, at two o'clock, will see the end with the Prorogation speech.

—The People's M.P.

## PRISONER ACQUITTED.

**The Empty Cellars.**  
"I told Mrs. Foy," prisoner went on,  
"that I heard one of Monteth's girls

...any foreign goods, and you will find  
...superior in Portland and Portland Cement  
...these companies. You may find  
...Made at Portland's City Works  
...Glasgow—Laid

Another torpedo boat has come t

1. "I christen you Waterloo Jack."  
2. Harrison, who had entered his  
h year, was the last living witness  
the great battle.

The release of Miss Christina

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Sir Harry, did useful work. Mr. as Mrs. Jim Greaves, and Miss M. as Lady Duncan, contributed much to the success of the performance. Edith Watkins and Mr. W. H. G.



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**WANTED—AN ADD**

Sir Harry, did useful work. Mr. as Mrs. Jim Greaves, and Miss M. as Lady Duncan, contributed much to the success of the performance. Edith Watkins and Mr. W. H. G.

## THE CONDUCTOR.



## THE ACTOR.



The Shakespeare Memorial Committee, albeit silent for some time past, has not been idle. The two sub-committees have, at their weekly meetings through the autumn, drafted a plan for a National Theatre, to be

## PIPER PAN.



I think there is no doubt that Dr. Naylor's work will be produced with every possible care to ensure its success. And how intensely all the musical world of England hence it

**WILL WORKMAN.**



Nor is it ungrounded; to export 34,000,000 tons of coal and \$21,000 tons of clay may pay the present generation, but a hundred years hence, when only the inferior and more difficult seams of coal are left, when all the clay has gone, our great grand-

**OLD IZAAK.**



It was with great regret that I found myself unable to attend the fine distribution of the Anglers' Benevolent Society at the Portobello Tavern, Notting Hill (the head-quar-

**BUCKLAND JUNIOR.**



The banded rattlesnake is found chiefly on mountain ledges, and during the autumn previous to their

The additions to the Zoological Society's Gardens for the week ending Dec. 13 include:—Mammals: A brown bear, 2 common marten, 5 Cape porcupines, 3 Cape mole rats, a lemming hare, and a python. Birds:—A hooded crow, a pomarine cockney, a golden eagle, a great tanager, and a common kingfisher.

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The Postmaster-General informed W. Hall in the House of Commons that representatives of the British and Canadian Governments would meet in the spring to discuss possible solutions of the Canadian "cable rates."

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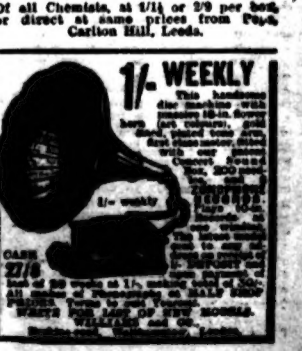


## BRONCHIAL COLDS.

Mar. A. Richmond. 3. Cambridge.

**PEPS**

**PERF.**







**JUSTICE MATHEW'S WILL.**  
The will of the late Lord Justice Mathew has just been proved at £20,282 gross, with net personality £10,925. He left all his personal effects to his widow, his estate at Castle Lake, Co. Tipperary, to his son Richard, and the residue of his property to his wife for life, with remainder to his four children, taking into account the amounts already settled on them. One condition was made with regard to his unmarried daughter, Miss Katherine Mary Mathew, wife of John James Bonner, Esq., viz., that she should become a nun, on pain of forfeiting her share.

## THE LOWER DECK

bered how all the reserve ships used to lay in our dockyard basins for ten months out of the year and rust away into obsolescence, and it is only members of the present Board of Admiralty who have altered all this. Yet this is forgotten, and the officers who bettered things by 75 per cent. are bullied because the ideal has not been reached at once. Some have been cruising evolutions and exercises which should content the soul of even the most exacting critic, and which will send the Fleetmaster to their friends in a mood to thoroughly enjoy the recreations of the coming festive season. It is unfortunate that it should be necessary to keep one-half of the ships of the Channel Fleet ready for sea at all hours' notice, but after a few wise sentences a sailor's philosophy will surmount that disappointment, and the ships' companies take their Christmas dinners among those who have to eat their Christmas dinners on board a man-of-war or in Naval barracks this year. On all sides there will be good cheer and good spirits, and the officers and men will be glad to doff or sabote will be loaded with everything required for a pleasurable time in a reasonable way, without any of the usual chuckle-buckle of the Christmas season. And while wishing them all a Merry Christmas, I am sure they would like also to convey the compliments of the Admiralty to my readers, the likes of Mr. Atkins, and his comrades in the British Army.

Very much in keeping with the progress of Civil affairs is the tendency now visible in the Navy to allow young officers of undoubted ability to win their way to the top of the service by merit, and before they grow old and past their prime. The cases of Capt. Dombier, who has recently been appointed to the command of the *Albatross*, and Capt. Duff, only four years holding of his rank, and Capt. Davis Beatty, A.D.C., who is likely soon to become a Rear-Admiral at the age of 35, are cases in point of the development of Naval activity. With the very evident intention of the Admiralty to facilitate more and more the promotion of the younger men, the Admiralty has encouraged given to young and clever officers marks a very progressive and commendable spirit at the Admiralty, with a determination to bestow the same on the civil professions in offering attractions for the very best brains of the country. There is nowadays plenty of scope in Naval service for the young man who will further increase the efficiency or ensure the safety of our warships. There are vast fields of research open to any genius who comes along, and the Admiralty will be fully-encouraged to use his brains, and should be rapidly placed in the position in which he can use them best. In these days, when the ship of the line is still left in the competition of nations, to allow a useful unit to be cramped and kept from his proper office by cast-iron rules of the kind that have been laid down for Naval officers and men should be of the best, and the best of these should be encouraged in doing good to the service of which they are a part, and in doing it by that they benefit the nation at large. Naval work, in short, is national work. Of course, there is still room and need of the experience, as well as youth and energy.

This week I am again inclined to let a man, representing his own grievance and the grievance of many others, state his case in his own homely language. My only comment is that the line must be drawn at the point where the necessity becomes necessary to make adjustments that give a little more flexibility than the Regulations possess on this point at present. The Laws of the State and Parliament ought not to be asked to the manner of rewarding long service and good conduct. There should be room for the authorities to use more discretion, for to follow by a day, two or three a highly competent soldier for good service is neither good sense nor good policy.

Sir—I hope you will give this great improve ventilation in your most valuable paper, for not only myself but many others have been treated in the same manner as the gentleman who has made a difference in the pension of N.C.O.'s and men discharged from the R.M.L.I. I have been discharged with 15 consecutive years of service, and have been awarded the G.C. Medal, yet I am told by the Powers that that I have not complied with the regulations, as the V.O. I obtained on discharge was a colour sergeant, the G.C. Medal, as it was not obtained at the annual assessment of character. I was discharged as colour sergeant, with but one entry in my record of 15 years of service. Within seven weeks of being 15 years clear, and was recommended for medal by my Commandant, who phoned me up before he was to give me my discharge with my medal. I have known cases even worse than mine, in which N.C.O.'s have actually been clear of defaulters' book ever since they were discharged, and yet been refused before the "end of the year assessment" they have not been granted the medal. In some cases extension of service is granted, but not often for periods over three months.

**National Volunteer Reserve**

In these days, when it is necessary to have the service of every man with any kind of military training behind him lined up in some manner or other, it can be used in case of need for the protection of our own shores or the safety of the Empire, and it is bound to help forward all movements which are in the objects in view. For this reason I am glad of the opportunity of putting in a word about the National Volunteer Reserve, which is being done by Col. C. Ford and his colleagues, who are organising a "National Volunteer Reserve" of British-born soldiers, ex-Armies, ex-Navy, or ex-Army with four years' efficient service. I hope ex-Navy men will be so pleased that they can still offer their services that they will form an above-mentioned force, which is being raised to form the third line of home defence in time of war. All three pillars of the Empire—Army, Navy, and Air Force—are termed, and meantime Mr. M. C. St. J. Sheppard, of St. Queen Victoria-st., London, E.C., would be glad to give you more information as to membership (stating rank and service). This Reserve is over 400 strong.

require an absolutely free hand, and under the present regime this would be impossible, though no better mass could be found for re-modelling the Home Army, as he has done the Indian. It is his task of binding together the Colonial forces so that they may be ready to work together entirely in unison. In India he has been successful in procuring Gen. Barrow, an old Indian campaigner, who knows all the frontier perforce better than any soldier living. Gen. Barrow has now a command under Kitchener. The Indian commander will be widely appreciated in the barracks room as a reward for his hard hammering policy, and brilliant work as an organiser in post-war.

### A Doughty Champion.



We all know by the calendar that the Earl of Wemyss has long since passed the score and ten (and even the four score limit) which are the province of youth, the age of man, but the "daughty champion of the Militia" were judged only his stern analysis of the present Military situation he would be looked upon as a foolish and gladiolous in his lusty prime putting a long string of questions on Monday with regard to the new Home Defence Army, he not only elicited some useful information from Lord Lucas, respecting the Territorial Army, but made an announcement the policy which has thrown away the opportunity of securing (chiefly by using the powers of the Militia Ballot) an adequate Home Defence Force for an emergency, which in the words of the noble lord is in its present state, when only two-thirds grown, entirely worthless, and which, even if it had the full strength of 300,000, would still be of little avail. It might have to perform

Mr. Geo. Frannell, hon. sec. of the committee formed for the purpose of carrying out the recommendations of the Manassas National Veterans' Conference of London, has announced that the following employers, to which the committee has written this column last week, writes from 22 St. Paul's Churchyard, E.C., to say that Messrs. Howard Williams, Henry McIntyre and himself were elected to form a committee to see that the men were put up in the warehouses of nearly 72 big employers announcing to over 5,000 employees that the War Office has been granted the facilities for allowing them to go home for the Christmas holidays, as well as during the Easter holidays. They are now willing to give 21 days' holidays every year on full pay to salesmen, warehousemen or clerks who, with their own consent, are sent to the Territorial Army, and who put in at least 10 days' service in camp. Each of the signatory firms has appointed and forwarded to the committee the name of a gentleman to act as its representative on all Territorial matters, and it is hoped that the scheme will be a success.

[illegible][illegible]

the National Defence Army than was the old Volunteer. The general feeling was that at least the citizen soldier was a more serious performer. The people added greatly to the keenness of the men who transferred. It may be illogical to think that a difference in the form of the badge of honour worn by the citizen soldier would make any difference, and that of the Territorial soldier weakens the connection of the latter with the regular Army, but the situation was being improved, as I pointed out, by the introduction of innovations. The old grievance has been wantonly maintained. I fear that if the design is carried in a new obstacle will be put in the way, and that a citizen soldier will be regarded as an element of unpopularity. The citizen force will have been quite ar-

It is officially announced that the consideration as to 15 years qualifying service for the Volunteer Long Service Medal does not apply to officers. That an officer who had not completed 15 years service at the date of his award is not allowed to reckon any service subsequent to that date towards the period required to qualify for the medal. Also that officers are ineligible for the Territorial Efficiency Medal. And that officers who have been awarded the Volunteer Medal is not eligible for the Territorial Medal, although he may have served for a period equivalent to that required to qualify for the latter decoration subsequently to his having been awarded the Volunteer Medal.

Headquarters, Volunteer Office

pany gathered at Carlton Hall on Wednesday night on the occasion of the prize distribution to the 15th Co. of Longford (the 1st Co. of the Buffs) for the 1st Division (Service Rifles) when the Minister delivered a very interesting address. The new C.O., Col. the Hon. C. S. G. D. Widdowhury (late Scots Guards) and who proposed the 1st Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders in the corps, also presided over the proceedings. Col. Merrick, now second in command, presented a very interesting report, in the course of which he said his Majesty the King had been pleased to appoint a man who could count on an unbroken connection with the corps from its formation in 1850, when the King, then Prince of Wales, became its honorary colonel to Colonel Sir Charles Widdowhury, who was in the Territorial Force, beginning with a strength of 553 in its first year. It reached its maximum strength in 1901 when it numbered 1,418 of all ranks.

This year, out of a strength of 803, 750 identified soldiers and no fewer than 100 remained for the whole 15 days. It was the strongest battalion in the 2nd Division, which was under the command of Maj.-gen. Vesey Dawson, who, with the Earl of Arran, was present on the occasion. Arriving in the chapel in the morning Mrs. F. D. Acland, wife of Mr. Acland, M.P., Financial Secretary to the Army, Council, who until the recent changes was an officer of the regiment. Lieutenant Acland, who was decorated with the medal, cup and £10, and Pte. Chicker, the silver medal and £5. Maj. Brett's company (B) won the Lord Bury Cup and C company (Lieut. Kirby) the Lord of Arran Cup.

In the course of Mr. Haldane's address which by the way, was slightly interrupted at the outset by the inevitable interruption of a telegram announcing that the future of the Territorial Force was no part of the country in which the number of horses was steadily increasing. In referring to one of the greatest difficulties that would be met with when mobilisation became necessary, Mr. Haldane said the Army Council had definitely decided upon a course by which the problem would be surely solved. The first step would be to ascertain, register and classify in each county the horses that would be available in case of emergency. The Government could then take, compulsorily (of course, paying for them) any horses existing in the county in excess of the number of horses available three times as many horses as they would need in case of mobilisation. There was, therefore, no occasion for any horse would prove an insoluble problem. ELIAS.

### The 1938 Record.

In club shooting with the miniature rifle at short ranges in 1938, the champion was a most unexpected one. A Scotchman, Mr. J. Irvine, of the Manchester Municipal Officers A.C., some of his scores are given in "The Rifleshot," and from them it seems that Mr. Irvine has achieved a record in the highest possible equalled. In 18 competition shoots, each shoot comprising a series of 25, 50, and 100 yards, he has made the century each time, and qualified for 18 "skilled" shoot certificates between April and November. He has also made the highest possible score at the three ranges in one shoot, he has also created a record in miniature shooting. From his portrait Mr. Irvine appears to be a young man, and he is probably his name would certainly be known to the sports-civilians gathered about the miniature rifle.

In the Lines County League matches the Fisheralds continue to justify their praise given to their shooting. Against the Fishers of the Fishers and Fishers made a score of 73, which included 20 centuries and only one 30. This is the high score mark of any shooting in the county. It was a solidly brilliant performance, and the Fishers were more than if each man had dropped a single point the handicap of 2, 3 and 5 percent, demanded by use of the aperture light in every case. The aperture light is undoubtedly advantageous when shooting by variable artificial light, but it is a disadvantage when shooting by natural light. Given a good team, a good light, and men used to the open night, then, in miniature rifle shooting at the fire target, the aperture light is a disadvantage. The aperture light men cannot do more, though they may, and probably do, achieve the same result with

Several correspondents, members of rural clubs, ask how other clubs make money ends meet, their own club being unable to do so. They are told that the only way to make a club balance is to be trustworthy as a guide, and unless circumstances were similar, the backbone of club finance is plenty of members. The club must be open, and members purchasing ammunition regularly occupied all the time it is open, and members purchasing ammunition of the club at a higher price than the open market price. The club at Wokingham are 5s. 6d. a night, and the cartridges at four a penny yield a profit of one shilling a hundred. The club does not shoot rounds at all, but the cartridges are in balance. To meet this deficiency the price of cartridges is to be raised to 3d. for eight rounds. Prices should be contributed to the Government, and the competitions usually should include free ammunition and yield a double profit. If the Government granted free ammunition to rifle clubs, the Government would not allow clubs to sell to members what the Government had given the members. Therefore, the result, such a change would be the collapse of the present system. The club revenue would be that derived from the subscriptions of members, and there would have to be a provision of prize cartridges used.

The best way for the Government, or any authority, to encourage rifle shooting is to assist in providing adequate range accommodation, which is most needed. The Government is in a position to do this. Unfortunately, also, it is in a position to antagonise landowners, and thus render the situation still more difficult and expensive. The range question is a matter of vital importance to civilian rifle clubs, and becomes acute in every locality where the range is small and the supply of free ammunition is of a merely secondary moment. At present a county association has about five rounds per man only available for competition, and this is a serious handicap. The Government might advantageously grant sufficient service ammunition for the use of competitors in all contests, for which the Government would be reimbursed. It might also provide the prizes. There would be a sufficient aid in cartridges for grants of ammunition afford only temporary relief, while the provision of a permanent rifle range is of great value.

The intention of the Government with regard to civilian rifle clubs will be to facilitate the formation of such clubs as the really associations. These corporations admit that the question has to be considered, but they agree also that the decision should be left to the people. The consideration and discussion of a relationship postponed as long as possible. The financing of civilian rifle clubs is a budgetary question. The Government is not prepared to do this. These associations may encourage rifle shooting simply by a change in their membership. They may attract people who love shooting. These men make themselves efficient rifle shots at their own expense. They constitute the backbone of the Government's defense which might be found very useful in an event of an unexpected invasion. A very little cost in trouble and money will be available to the Government. It will be kept on record. Most of the men who would be planned if there was such a thing as a surprise attack would be the men who have taken the field in a fighting unit. It would be a surprise if there

allowed the enemy to approach within 600 yards of them in this country.

Some rifle clubs are providing facilities for pistol shooting as a variant to the usual programme. Since the revolver is practically abolished as an Army weapon, it is almost certainly to be not regarded in any sense as a national duty but must be viewed solely as a sport. As sport it will always attract civilian rifle-shots, and clubs may have support from Army officers and sportsmen. It is interesting to note from the point of view of club finance that there is little in pistol shooting. Ammunition and targets cost the same as for rifles, whilst the target pistol costs more than the N.R.A. converted British rifle. The fact that the State takes the whole of the British Empire there is only one factory producing revolvers but abroad there are hundreds of makers. Some articles on pistol shooting have appeared in "The Rifleman" and a variety of target pistols are illustrated.



**A.O.D. Writers.**

The announcement recently made by Mr. Haldane that an improved scale of pay for Writers of the Army Ordnance Department might shortly be expected will not, I understand, affect the large body employed at Woolwich only those at home out-stations where the scale of pay is lower than at headquarters. The concession will come into operation on April 1st next. Such concessions are so rare that one is inclined to cheer unduly when one comes along.

is a great achievement, and the Federation of Writers' Associations in Washington Departments is to be congratulated on its share of the "business done." I think that all writers at out-stations would do well to join a federation which has already shown that it is a live one, and if any who have had their interests aroused by the above arguments, the following paragraph will send me a card I will put them in touch with the home writers.

I wonder if overtime, when paid for, is a good thing for the service and the community. The following is a list of Christmas the post office men at Mount Pleasant will be wrestling with letters and parcels for many more hours than would satisfy. The following is a list showing how he will work:

At 10 a.m. from the 18th to the 24th, both days inclusive. From the 10th to the 22nd he will work from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. From the 23rd to the 24th, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. From the 25th to the 26th, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., and from the 26th from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. He will work, of course, be well paid, and does not get a rest, grow weary, or get tired. He likes it, however, is whether the public might not be just as well, if no better, served were the overtime less and the number of workers more. The following is a list of the men and their auxiliaries has been enormous this year and the authorities cannot place them. The lack of that as an excuse, nor could they be. The following is a list of the men and their auxiliaries has been enormous this year and the authorities cannot place them. The lack of that as an excuse, nor could they be. The following is a list of the men and their auxiliaries has been enormous this year and the authorities cannot place them. The lack of that as an excuse, nor could they be.

By the way, the question of overtime is rather interesting. In the Post Office the subordinates are paid for it but the clerks, for instance, for some unknown reason work two hours overtime every day throughout the year, and cannot get a day's leave, charge for their extra work. You will see at once that this little sample of sweating does harm to the staff and but very little, if any, good to the public. It stops promotion, and it must impregnate gall into the blood of the involuntary overtime worker.


A valued correspondent who takes a tremendous interest in the Civil Servants' movement, writes: "I can't call it a movement" yet) suggests a place where we might insert the thin end of the wedge. Before we can get what we want, we must have the same kind of animosity, and, as everybody knows, each section of the service is at present fighting on its own. Each is afraid of being left behind, and therefore the Civil Servants feel about them to wait for the weak, or to add to their burdens by carrying the helpless. The idea is that all civil servants in the Parliamentary boroughs should be about the same size, and that they should come to an agreement to work together as voters on certain lines which would be beneficial to all. If they could agree on this, they would be able to make their importance, and then interview the Parliamentary candidates on the subject and explain to them that, although the Civil Servants were forced to support the Government, they were not injured by it.

signify the support of M.P.s and candidates in doubt as to their constituents' views. It is a policy of constant constituents blasing up into some thing like fiery real. You may say that this looks like coercion. I do not think so. It would be merely a bargain. It would be a non-party matter which might be settled by the Government. I have undertaken to give his vote in favour of a Court of Appeal, would have in return, the support of the civil servants in his constituency. If the ideas were taken up all round we might find in the next Parliament have a very good deal of support. I am glad that the House of Commons pledged to bring a Court of Appeal into being. Then we could get our central office, and a united service would be assured.

graphist. He seems to think that I tried to put a damper on him I am sorry. What I wanted to do was to concentrate on the more important thing of telegraphy, beyond the Morse alphabet could not hope to get into the Central Telegraph Office and work along side of the men who were doing the good enough to say that soldiers have done it. They have not. The Royal Engineers train a comparatively small number of telegraphists. They work in a school, and are kept at it, week in week out, for about a couple of years before they are sent out to employ of the post office in the United Kingdom. They are then, to all intents and purposes, post office telegraphists, and are under skilled supervision until they themselves become an instructor. A telegraphist or a sailor cannot be trained in this way. Men who enlist as telegraphists into the R.E. must have been employed in that capacity for a year or more before they will go back and take up their proper places again. The War Office did make an effort to train infantry soldiers in the use of telegraph, but the telegraph assistants, but nobody can say that they made a sensational success of it. My correspondence is undoubtedly of good technical standard, but I am not qualified for the position of a telegraphist, and if he should think my

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**29.000 MEANTHROUGH** Must be changed before Christmas. Inadequate to cover the mouth of a large Maine partner who is starting his business and the necessary capital will need to say address a Massachusetts Parcel of Houseboat (Florida Houseboat) 50 useful and serviceable and some included in the U.S. JANCY COYNER, LINEN, as together with a beautiful BLUET, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836,

**THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO**



Contractors to His Majesty's Forces and the Royal Army

**HOW TO GAIN STRENGTH.**—The day is rapidly coming when every class will gladly recognise "Wincarnis" as an indispensable household tonic. If you take "Wincarnis" either as a healthy beverage or as a medicinal tonic, you can practically dispense with drugs and patent medicines. Nature only requires invigorating to make the wheels of life run smoothly; the moment the blood feels the nutriment of "Wincarnis" the circulation is accelerated, and the whole of the veins and arteries pulsate with resilient vigour. When the blood is richly laden with red corpuscles by the aid of "Wincarnis," you feel buoyant, bright, and brisk. The heart is stronger, the nerves tighter, the brain clearer, and the muscles firmer. No one ever regrets taking the famous wine tonic; it lifts you up to a higher plane of life.

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**AFTER FREE TRIAL**  
 you can buy "Wincarnis" of any wine merchant, but not at any chemist or grocer.  
 Only licensed chemists and grocers can sell the pure natural "Wincarnis," but unlicensed chemists can sell "Wincarnis" medicated with Quinine.

pay cost of carriage), to Coleman and Co. Ltd., Wincarnis Works, Norwich, and you'll receive the wine tonic free.

**SIGN NAME** \_\_\_\_\_  
**THIS ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_  
**COUPON** \_\_\_\_\_

"The People." Dec. 15th, 1908.  
 "Wincarnis" is now sold by the glass at all the refreshment rooms of the Great Eastern and Great Northern Railway Stations, also on

**SEND COUPON TO COLEMAN & CO., LTD., NORWICH.**

**The Session.**  
Many personal incidents have marked the Session which closes to-morrow. Early in the year Mr. Asquith succeeded Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman as Prime Minister, and for a time did well. During the last few months, however, he has made many tactical blunders which have greatly incensed many of the more extreme of his followers, and in consequence he has experienced much difficulty in keeping his pack together. On the other hand, the Session has been one continuous triumph for Mr. Balfour, who has demonstrated time after time his perfect mastery in debate. It is safe to say that no time did the Unionist leader show to greater advantage than during the passage of the Licensing Bill through the House of Commons.

**A Tribute to Genius.**  
At one time the members of the Labour Party were wont to sneer at and interrupt Mr. Balfour, and nothing has been more remarkable than their changed attitude towards him. When the announcers, which tell members in the different rooms of the Commons who is addressing the House, announce that "Balfour is up," the Labour group flock into the chamber to hear the Unionist leader, and he has no more attentive auditors. They may not agree with the views Mr. Balfour expresses, but there is not a man among them who does not admire his splendid abilities.

**On the Knee.**  
The dissensions existent in the Radical ranks were clearly evidenced in the Commons during the consideration of the Pease amendments to the Miners' Eight Hours Bill. Amongst the usual Government adherents who kicked over the traces was Mr. Arthur Ponsonby, who inquired if the first step in the Radical campaign against the Pease was to be taken "on the knee," and further declared he was no longer able to remain a silent supporter of Mr. Asquith's Ministry. Mr. Ponsonby is known to hold very extreme views, and it will be recollected he was one of those members who did not receive an invitation to the King's garden party at Windsor—and this despite the fact that his father was for many years private secretary to Queen Victoria.

There is, however, a Radical who is distinguished with his nominal leaders, and has expressed a desire to receive no more summonses from the Party Whip.

**Preparing for the Fray.**  
Although members of the Cabinet have stated that a General Election will not take place for a considerable time, those behind the scenes, both at the Radical and Unionist headquarters, firmly believe that the appeal to the country will come in the early part of next year, and are accordingly perfecting the machinery. It is rumoured to-morrow that during the next few days wealthy supporters of the Government have been privately approached to augment the Radical War Chest, and everything points to an earlier dissolution than was generally anticipated. During the recess the whole Radical organisation in the country is to undergo a complete revision.

**A Forecast.**  
What the result of the General Election will be it is, of course, impossible to say with any degree of definiteness, but I was yesterday shown a detailed forecast by a highly-placed politician. According to his calculations, the poster of the complexion of Ireland will remain much as it is at present; three seats will be captured by the Unionists in Wales; nine or ten in Scotland, while the turn-over in England will be such that the Radical majority will, including the Nationalists, be reduced to 60. A Government as composed, and dependent for its existence entirely on the Irish vote, would have rather a long life nor a merry one, and a further appeal to the country would soon follow.

**Another West-End Sensation.**  
The brawl in a West-End drawing-room which resulted in two society ladies being bound over to keep the peace is not the only untoward incident which has occurred in Mayfair during the week. A disagreement during a game of cards at a private gaming club led to a titled lady being accused of cheating, and in the heated passages which followed aspersions were cast on the character of the accuser. This involved the reputation of a highly-placed officer stationed in London, who has placed the matter in the hands of his legal advisers. Unless a complete apology is forthcoming, a very interesting slander action will result.

**The Divorce Court.**  
It is a long time since the Divorce Court has so uninteresting a sitting as the present. Hardly does it happen that three months go by without some startling or exciting story reaching the palate of a certain section of the newspaper-reading public. The fact is that greater efforts are now made by the friends of the parties interviewed to settle the case out of court, and society has ceased to consider that a divorce case is likely to lead to the satisfaction which was at one time anticipated. The result has been a loss of importance has been settled privately during the last few weeks. Perhaps the importation of a different class of counsel into the charmed circle of Divorce Court practitioners might lead to different results.

**Who will be the New County Court Judge?**  
Very great interest is being aroused in the Temple as to the barrister who will be chosen to fill the vacancy about to be created by the retirement of Judge Macnamara. The appointment of a certain Mr. F. who sits for a London constituency was looked upon as a certainty, especially as that gentleman had already stated that he had no intention of seeking re-election. During the past week, however, this expected appointment has been denied, and people are wondering why a worthy supporter of the Government should be passed over. Will the Chancellor have the situation and avoid another electoral disaster by appointing a Unionist? More unlikely things may happen, and there is plenty of speculation upon the matter.

Wm. A. W.

## TERRIBLE TRIPLE TRAGEDY.

## SON MURDERS FATHER AND BROTHER-IN-LAW.

## BROTHERS CHARGED WITH COMPLICITY.

The quiet little township of Maldon, in the Blackwater district of Essex, was the scene of a terrible triple tragedy early yesterday.

The son of a general dealer shot dead his father and brother-in-law, subsequently turning the weapon on himself and inflicting injuries which also proved fatal.

Later in the day two other brothers of the murderer were arrested and charged with being accessories before the fact.

The tragedy is supposed to be the sequel of domestic differences which had developed into the nature of a family feud.

## STORY OF THE TRAGEDY.

"People" Special Correspondent.

Maldon, Saturday Evening. The tragedy is one of the most sensational which has ever occurred in the county. The "People" special representative, Mr. Frederick Jas. Cole, who was murdered by the eldest son, who bore his name, was a local carrier. On Friday night, together with his son-in-law, named Major Kitchen, the other victim of the murderer, he returned from Chelmsford shortly after eleven o'clock. Mrs. Kitchen, who had accompanied her husband and father, was dropped at her house, the men proceeding to the stables, some 10 minutes' distance from the house, to put up the horse. Here Fred Cole, jun., appears to have been hiding awaiting the return of his father and brother-in-law. How the fatal encounter took place it is impossible to say, but about two hours later, when Mrs. Kitchen, concerned at the non-arrival home of her husband, proceeded to find the dead bodies of her husband and father lying in a pool of blood, while some yards from the stables she stumbled across the body of her brother Fred with blood oozing from a wound in his neck.

The police on the scene. The poor woman, staggered by the shock, went off for assistance, and the police were applied of the occurrence. What they found at the stables was described as the police court proceedings by Police Inspector Giggins, when two other sons of the deceased Cole were placed in the dock, and charged with "aiding, abetting, counselling, and procuring" Fred Jas. Cole the younger to feloniously and wilfully and with malice aforethought kill and murder his father.

## At the Police Court.

The accused men, Edw. Hy. Cole, 23, and Jas. Cole, 30, who were described as a chimney sweep and a painter, were arraigned and rather weakly in appearance. They were represented by Mr. A. W. Freeman, solicitor. Insp. Ed. Giggins, stationed at Maldon, stated that at 2.15 a.m. on Saturday he went to some stables situated in a meadow at Ten-terfield, Maldon, which had been occupied by Fred Jas. Cole, sen. (deceased), and there he saw P.C. Barrows and Dr. Bence.

The inspector's statement. The inspector said: "I found Fred Jas. Cole lying on his back in the first stable. He was dead, with a bullet wound on the right side of his head. Major Kitchen, the son-in-law, was lying against the third stable door dead, with a bullet wound in his right chest. The top of the double door was closed, and the lower half was open. The rug and lamp had no doubt just been put there on the arrival of Cole and Kitchen."

The murderer found. Fred Jas. Cole, jun., was lying in the open meadow about 27 yards away from the third stable. He had a bullet wound in his neck. He was alive, but unconscious. The bullet appeared to have entered the neck and come out at the other side of the head; a five-chambered revolver was lying beside his hand. I examined the revolver and found it contained four empty cartridges and one loaded one. The revolver produced was a new-looking, plated weapon. We obtained a stretcher and removed the injured man to the infirmary at the union. On searching his clothing at the infirmary I found 10 cartridges in the waistcoat pocket, and in his coat pocket I found a box (produced) with 34 cartridges and 24d. in money. The dead bodies were taken to the mortuary. On Edw. Cole, sen., the deceased, I found 25 lbs. 3d. and a cheque-book, and in Kitchen's pocket was 1s. 2d.

## The Brothers Arrested.

At 5 a.m. I went with other officers to Cole's house at 111, High-st., Maldon. The two prisoners were in bed. They dressed and came down. I cautioned them and asked them to come to the police station. There, again, cautioned them, and said: "When did you see your brother Fred last?" They both said: "Last night, about a quarter to 11." They both wrote.

I am a blacksmith, living at Maldon. My brother Fred came to our home about 6.30 p.m. on the 19th inst. He was there all the evening. His wife was present when he came in. She stayed there about half an hour after Fred came in. She then left the house, and Fred was there all the evening sitting in front of the fire smoking his pipe. I was trying to sleep all the evening. My brother Jim was at home at tea-time when Fred came in, and was in and out all the evening.

My brother Jim went out about 30 minutes to 11 p.m. for the supper. I said to Fred: "Why don't you go home?" He said: "All right; I will go presently." I said: "You will have your supper after you. You had better go home if you are going to work in the morning."

Smith taking the fire off. Fred came in about a minute or two afterwards, and said: "I am going now. Get up and get me a cup of tea in the morning." With that he went out by the back door into the yard. That would be about a quarter to 11. I have not seen him since. I went to bed about a quarter of 10 minutes past 11. I had been

had been a member of Maldon Borough Council, and was a little over 60 years of age. He had three sons and several daughters, but for some time past there had been differences in the family. For years the sons had been associated with their father in his business, which he himself comprehensively described as that of "jobmasters, iron, rag, and metal merchants, licensed horse slaughterers, farmers, and roundabout proprietors." Evidence of the acute nature of the family friction which existed is found in the fact that Cole, sen., in September last, split partnership with his sons and issued a circular to his clientele and the public generally, in the course of which he stated that

Fdk. Jas. Cole, of No. 111, High-st., and G. Mount Pleasant, Maldon, trading as Cole Bros., Cole and Co., and Ye Olde King Cole, jobmasters, iron, rag, and metal merchants, licensed horse slaughterers, farmers, and roundabout proprietors, &c., &c.

It is not known exactly how or when the family estrangement began, but the following notice issued by the deceased, Frederick Cole, on Sept. 22 last, shows that the relations had then become very much strained.

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Beys to inform the public that none of his sons are now in his employ and have no power or authority to buy or sell or deal in name in his behalf, and he will not hold himself responsible for any debts incurred by them, and no person must pay any money to them which is due to him, or buy or receive from them any horses, carriages, pigs, goats, chickens, &c., which are his property. Any person or persons receiving any of his goods will be prosecuted. All the Places occupied by him in Maldon or elsewhere are under his sole Proprietorship and Hire, they having no right on them whatever. It having come to his knowledge that a lot of Goods and Chattels, his property, have recently been sold by them and money owing to him obtained by them to which they are not entitled, he begs to inform the public that he will endeavour to recover the same. I, FREDERICK JAS. COLE, hold myself wholly responsible for the publication of this Notice. Dated Sept. 22, 1908.

## CANADIAN MYSTERY.

Disappearance of two young Englishmen.

A Reuter telegram from Victoria (B.C.) says the Attorney-General's department has taken up the matter of the disappearance of the two young Englishmen—Matthew Tunnison and Hy. Phipps—in the northern interior of the province last summer. A brother of the first-named, who resides in London, has written to persons in Victoria stating that he had heard from his brother, who was at Fort

I was at home last evening about 6 or 6.30. My brother Fred came in, and remained at home until about 8.30. I then went off to Dent's premises and hung skins up. I came back about 10 minutes or a quarter past nine. Brother Fred was still there. I stopped at home till about 10 p.m. Then I went up to Dent's premises again, and hung some more skins up. I went indoors about 20 minutes past 10. My brother Fred was still there. I went to the Rose and Crown for the supper beer about 20 minutes to 11, leaving Fred and sister Annie downstairs. My mother was upstairs. I left the Rose and Crown at 11 o'clock, and when I came outside met young Foster in the street. I also saw young Brand, and bade them "good-night." I then went indoors, and there found Ted and sister Annie. Fred had gone to his home. I had supper and went to bed, leaving Ted and sister Annie downstairs.

Continuing, the Inspector deposed that he said to prisoners, "Your father and brother-in-law Kitchen are dead. To all appearances they have been shot by your brother Frederick. He is in the infirmary with a bullet wound in his head. If he recovers he will be charged with wilful murder, and as you were all together last evening, and Fred left your house about the time you all knew the paper cart would be coming home, I shall arrest you with being accessories before the fact. Ted said: "Never; you're joking." The other made no reply.

Removed to Chelmsford Gaol. This was all the evidence the Inspector said he proposed to have

taken, and asked for an adjournment till Thursday at 10 o'clock. The men were afterwards removed handcuffed together to Chelmsford Gaol. While the police court proceedings were in progress the news reached the court that young Cole had expired at the infirmary from the effects of his wound.

## Family Differences.

A further act which widened the breach between the deceased father and son was the fact that within the past few days Cole, sen., obtained an

adjournment order against Cole, jun., who was compelled to leave the cottage in which he resided. In his capacity as roundabout proprietor, "Olde King Cole," or "Coley," by order of which sobriquet he was locally known, attended most of the pleasure fairs in East Essex, while in his business as carrier he made a large acquaintance.

## Family Estrangement.

It is not known exactly how or when the family estrangement began, but the following notice issued by the deceased, Frederick Cole, on Sept. 22 last, shows that the relations had then become very much strained.

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Beys to inform the public that none of his sons are now in his employ and have no power or authority to buy or sell or deal in name in his behalf, and he will not hold himself responsible for any debts incurred by them, and no person must pay any money to them which is due to him, or buy or receive from them any horses, carriages, pigs, goats, chickens, &c., which are his property. Any person or persons receiving any of his goods will be prosecuted. All the Places occupied by him in Maldon or elsewhere are under his sole Proprietorship and Hire, they having no right on them whatever. It having come to his knowledge that a lot of Goods and Chattels, his property, have recently been sold by them and money owing to him obtained by them to which they are not entitled, he begs to inform the public that he will endeavour to recover the same. I, FREDERICK JAS. COLE, hold myself wholly responsible for the publication of this Notice. Dated Sept. 22, 1908.

## CANADIAN MYSTERY.

Disappearance of two young Englishmen.

A Reuter telegram from Victoria (B.C.) says the Attorney-General's department has taken up the matter of the disappearance of the two young Englishmen—Matthew Tunnison and Hy. Phipps—in the northern interior of the province last summer. A brother of the first-named, who resides in London, has written to persons in Victoria stating that he had heard from his brother, who was at Fort

had been a member of Maldon Borough Council, and was a little over 60 years of age. He had three sons and several daughters, but for some time past there had been differences in the family. For years the sons had been associated with their father in his business, which he himself comprehensively described as that of "jobmasters, iron, rag, and metal merchants, licensed horse slaughterers, farmers, and roundabout proprietors." Evidence of the acute nature of the family friction which existed is found in the fact that Cole, sen., in September last, split partnership with his sons and issued a circular to his clientele and the public generally, in the course of which he stated that

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I was at home last evening about 6 or 6.30. My brother Fred came in, and remained at home until about 8.30. I then went off to Dent's premises and hung skins up. I came back about 10 minutes or a quarter past nine. Brother Fred was still there. I stopped at home till about 10 p.m. Then I went up to Dent's premises again, and hung some more skins up. I went indoors about 20 minutes past 10. My brother Fred was still there. I went to the Rose and Crown for the supper beer about 20 minutes to 11, leaving Fred and sister Annie downstairs. My mother was upstairs. I left the Rose and Crown at 11 o'clock, and when I came outside met young Foster in the street. I also saw young Brand, and bade them "good-night." I then went indoors, and there found Ted and sister Annie. Fred had gone to his home. I had supper and went to bed, leaving Ted and sister Annie downstairs.

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Continuing, the Inspector deposed that he said to prisoners, "Your father and brother-in-law Kitchen are dead. To all appearances they have been shot by your brother Frederick. He is in the infirmary with a bullet wound in his head. If he recovers he will be charged with wilful murder, and as you were all together last evening, and Fred left your house about the time you all knew the paper cart would be coming home, I shall arrest you with being accessories before the fact. Ted said: "Never; you're joking." The other made no reply.

Removed to Chelmsford Gaol. This was all the evidence the Inspector said he proposed to have

taken, and asked for an adjournment till Thursday at 10 o'clock. The men were afterwards removed handcuffed together to Chelmsford Gaol. While the police court proceedings were in progress the news reached the court that young Cole had expired at the infirmary from the effects of his wound.

## Family Differences.

A further act which widened the breach between the deceased father and son was the fact that within the past few days Cole, sen., obtained an

adjournment order against Cole, jun., who was compelled to leave the cottage in which he resided. In his capacity as roundabout proprietor, "Olde King Cole," or "Coley," by order of which sobriquet he was locally known, attended most of the pleasure fairs in East Essex, while in his business as carrier he made a large acquaintance.

## Family Estrangement.

It is not known exactly how or when the family estrangement began, but the following notice issued by the deceased, Frederick Cole, on Sept. 22 last, shows that the relations had then become very much strained.

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## ARTISTS &amp; AGENTS.

## TEST CASE AS TO COMMISSION.

## IMPORTANT DECISION.

An important case to music-hall artists and their agents was heard by Justice Darling in the King Bench Division, yesterday. Messrs. Empires (Ltd.), with Mr. Geo. Bastow, the well-known comedian, being defendants in an action brought by Messrs. Tom Shaw and Co., of Adam-st., Adelphi, theatrical agents—Mr. Duke, K.C., with Mr. Mandolph, K.C., for plaintiffs, and Mr. H. Gregory, K.C., for Mr. H. Gregory, the plaintiff's agent.

The point at issue was briefly whether the employers of the artist had a right in law to deduct commission from the artist's salary and forward it to an agent. There was another case in the list—Ashton and Mitchell v. Messrs. Empires (Ltd.) and Goldin—and Mr. Duke in opening his case, said that the two cases were similar, and the second would be settled according to the judgment given by his lordship in the first.

## Terms of the Agreement.

The case was much in the nature of a test, and it arose from the controversy which had taken place between variety artists and the agents who had been accustomed to arrange their engagements for them. Plaintiffs were claiming for five sums, which were now in the hands of Messrs. Messrs. Defendant (Mr. Bastow), it appeared, entered into an agreement with plaintiffs as follows:—

In consideration of your having procured an engagement with Messrs. Messrs (Ltd.), to appear as comedians, I hereby agree to pay to you, or your assigns, 10 per cent. commission on the salary above referred to—seven weeks at £40 a week and 12 weeks at £45 a week—and all money which shall accrue from the said engagement, or a prolongation of the same, and also commission on the salary at the next engagement. I hereby authorise Messrs. Messrs (Ltd.) to deduct and pay the said amount from my salary in any manner you may deem expedient.

The two last sentences, said Mr. Duke, were the chief, and out of them arose the point in question. In the course of the controversy he had referred to, Mr. Bastow requested Messrs. Messrs not to pay the money which had accrued in respect of his next engagement, and that amounted to £21 10s. That sum had been deposited, and was held at present by Messrs. Messrs, and as his counsel's clients wished to get it, Messrs. Messrs had been included in the case. Defendants. He understood that Messrs. Messrs raised no question as to plaintiff's right to the money, but they were prevented from paying it out because of Mr. Bastow's intervention.

Mr. Lamb said the question was whether there had been an equitable assignment of the money to plaintiffs. In the contract between Mr. Bastow and the Messrs Empires occurred this clause:—

## BARKING MYSTERY.

MAN AND WIFE SUFFOCATED BY COAL GAS.

Yesterday, all the elements of a sad and at present, unaccountable domestic tragedy were retained in the story of a discovery on Friday evening in one of the minor streets of Barking Old Town, and which was yesterday the one subject of conversation in the district. For six months past there have resided in Byfleet-st., just off the main road, a man and his wife, named Frederick and Hannah Carter. The man, who appeared to be somewhat overbearing, and was employed at a rubber works close by, and is described by his neighbours as being of a very reserved character, scarcely returning the friendly greetings of those whom he met on his way to and from his work, and not mixing with his neighbours as some do.

Three months ago Mr. and Mrs. Carter suffered a bereavement in the death of a little girl, their only child, but whether this had anything to do with the ultimate tragedy remains to be seen. It is stated in the neighbourhood that Carter and his wife did not live too happily together, she being older than he, but to all intents and purposes their domestic life was

## FIREMAN AND DOMESTIC.

ALLEGATIONS AGAINST A MARRIED MAN.

Yesterday at Greenwich, Wm. Bradley, of Sandhurst-rd., Catford, appeared to answer an adjourned summons for improperly assaulting Ada Vennor, aged 20, a domestic servant of a widow. The plaintiff alleged that defendant returned while she was alone in the house, and having learnt that his wife and daughter were out, asked her to him him, which she refused to do. Defendant, she alleged, thereupon pushed her against the wall, kissed her, and assaulted her. She declared that defendant then gave her 3d., telling her not to inform his wife, but she informed defendant's daughter on her return, and also Mrs. Bradley returning to her the 3d. defendant had given her. Defendant's wife now stated that defendant, when spoken to about the matter, denied everything. The girl gave witness back 3d., which she knew as all her husband had in his pocket.

Defendant, in his evidence, said he was a fireman, and, after 10 years in the Navy, was successively employed at the Constitutional Club, Northumberland-avenue, and at the Broadway Theatre. He had in his possession 24 years' good character. He was he said, perfectly innocent of the charges which he was made out of spite on the part of his wife, who was determined to obtain a separation by some means or other. She had told him for four or five years repeatedly to clear out of the house, that she could do better without him, as he had his "bottom" to go to—let—wait. Dunn said that, since the last he had been to the office of the Society for the Protection of Women and Children, and had told the girl Vennor and Mrs. Bradley that the society's solicitor would take a statement from them if they attended at the society's office, but they had not done so—Committed for trial, on bail.

## GUARDIAN FOUND DROWNED.

A Poor Law guardian named Patrick Horan, a native of Lark, was discovered drowned in a stream of four inches of water at a farm named Lark-mach, within a short distance of Lark. It is believed that the unfortunate man is the victim of foul play. When found his pockets were turned out, and it is understood that Horan had a considerable amount of money on him, having the day previous sold cattle at Midmarket fair.

## ELECTRIC FLASHES.

## NEWS ITEMS FROM ALL QUARTERS.

Mr. T. Richardson was yesterday elected as Labour candidate for N.W. Durham. Mr. Atherley Jones (N.) is the sitting member.

Mrs. Elisha Deakins is retiring as postwoman at the Border village of Linton, after over 30 years' service.

The magistrate at Cowes dismissed a charge of drunkenness against G. Williams, a constable with 17 years' service.

Scores of spinning companies, as well as private firms, in S.E. Lancashire are finding it difficult to keep all their machinery going, owing to scarcity of cotton.

Lois Headall, managing director of the great timber firm of A. A. Naylor (Ld.), has been arrested on a charge of appropriating the money of the firm to his own use.

John Rodell and Jas. Newbury were charged with poaching on Sir Julius Wernher's estate at Luton. P.C. Emerton had a desperate struggle with the men, who were armed with rills—Three weeks' hard labour.









## "THE PEOPLE" MIXTURE.

## PARAGRAPHS FROM ALL PARTS.

In London 2,188 births and 1,311 deaths were registered last week.

The deaths included 69 from measles, 19 from scarlet fever, 14 from diphtheria, 7 from whooping-cough, 9 from enteric fever, and 11 from diarrhoea.

Different forms of violence caused 82 deaths. Of these 13 were cases of suicide and 2 of homicide, while the remaining 67 deaths were attributed to accident or negligence.

The deaths registered last week in 76 great towns of England and Wales corresponded to an annual rate of 15.3 per 1,000 of their aggregate population, which is estimated at 16,254,353 persons in the middle of the year.

In Greater London 3,356 births and 1,907 deaths were registered. Allowing for increase of population, these numbers are 361 and 334 below the respective averages in the corresponding weeks of the previous five years.

A little Charles II. silver bowl, weighing 11oz., was sold for 350s. at once at Christie's.

Managers of the renewal school at Epsom have objected to inmates of the asylum being permitted to walk in the streets near the school, and the education committee is recommending the L.C.C. to put a stop to the practice.

"No man condemneth thee, neither do I condemn thee," said Judge Willis at Woolwich to the wife of a debtor. "Pay as soon as you can, but don't pay anything until after Christmas. You will want something for Christmas."

While Mr. W. Goodwyn, of Wrotham, near Grimsby, was out shooting, his cartridge became jammed, and when he tried to extricate it, it exploded. The shot entered one of his legs, which was amputated, but death resulted from shock.

**SHOT WITH POISONED ARROWS.**  
A Dutch patrol in the island of South Pagah (off the west coast of Sumatra) has been attacked by natives, who fired on the troops with poisoned arrows, killing one man and wounding another.

**TWELVE LIVE ON ICE. A WEEK.**  
A mother of 10 children told the London magistrates that she could not send the little ones to school as her husband only earned 10s. a week, and she was unable to buy boots out of that sum. She was fined 2s. 6d.

**CELEBRARIAN'S DEATH.**  
Mr. Jas. O'Sullivan, whose funeral took place this week at Dunsborough, Co. Cork, had attained the age of 100 years. He appeared as the plaintiff in a lawsuit heard in Dublin early this year, and astonished the court by his vitality and memory.

Gorse is to be seen in bloom in Epping Forest.

Owing to the bursting of a tank at a china clay works near St. Austell, nearly 800 tons of wet clay, valued at £1,000, ran to waste.

Blackbarn, a swart, rosy, poppy, and other flowers are in bloom in several parts of the Isle of Wight.

While singing a hymn at the close of the service at the Carmel Baptist Chapel, Pontardulais, near Llanelli, Wm. Tyllyard, a farmer, fell back in his seat and expired.

The Rev. F. Harrison, who has just resigned the living of North Wraxall, Wiltshire, has not been absent from the parish on a single Sunday since July 1907.

"In the imitation antique" business the most money is made when the biggest fools come along," declared a witness at the Bloombury County Court.

Penny dinners for the poor, at which the menu includes mutton broth, rabbit pie, potatoe hot-pot, Irish stew, and hot pies, have been started at South Shields.

**THE MIDDLESEX SESSIONS.**  
Mr. A. Macmorran, K.C., has consented to be nominated as chairman of the Middlesex Quarter Sessions in succession to the late Sir R. Lettler, and Mr. Montagu Sharpe, deputy chairman of the sessions, will also be a candidate. The election takes place on Jan. 9.

**FEED THE POOR.**  
When a Christmas box of £5 was granted by the St. Asaph Guardians to the workhouse master, it was stated that although it was no part of his duties, he had fed the pigs and had not once asked for an increase of salary during his 30 years' service.

**BAD TURKEY YEAR.**  
Leadenhall Market reports that English turkeys will not be so large or so plentiful as usual this Christmas. The early part of the season was unfavourable for hatching, and considerable numbers of the early brood were lost by damp and cold. The second brood, hatched two months later, under more favourable conditions, have not had time to grow.

Mr. John Galbraith, of the London Society of Composers, is dead.

Burglars who broke into the church at Pudget-Ville, a suburb of Toulon, cut down the church bell and carried it off in a cart.

Mr. Wm. R. Pincock, of Smithfield Market, writes warning owners of horses and vans "against the many thieves that are prowling about just now."

Aged 104, Mrs. Mary O'Donnell, of Drumore, near Mountcharles, co. Donegal, has challenged any young woman in the district to a stocking-knitting competition.

At Blackburn a jury awarded £100 damages against Blackburn Corporation to Mrs. Speight, of Righton, whose husband died from injuries sustained by being knocked down by an electric car.

A Swiss chef named Steiner, who was awaiting trial for causing the death of a fellow employee, committed suicide in his cell at Chislehurst by hanging himself with a towel.

The L.C.C. tramway now being constructed on Putney Bridge are being laid within a yard of the pavement on either side, thus leaving the centre of the road for vehicular traffic.

Nineteen motorists, timed between Bolney and Cuckfield (Sussex), were summoned at Hayward's Heath for exceeding the legal speed limit, when the total amount from fines and costs was £224 7s. 6d.

Willie Galbraith, the 10-year-old son of a Rotherham clergyman, has distinguished himself by delivering an extempore lecture, illustrated by limelight views, on the "Pilgrims' Progress," to an audience of 300 persons.

The Post Office authorities announce that the prompt delivery of letters and parcels during the coming Christmas season will be facilitated if the public will post as early in the day as possible on Dec. 21, 22, 23, 24, and 31, especially on Dec. 23 and 24.

**PROTEST AGAINST BAZAARS.**  
Wilkeson tradesmen are protesting against the fact that nearly £1,500 has been realised during the past month by bazaars in the district, much to the detriment of the Christmas trade at the shops.

**ENGLISH DOCTOR HONOURED.**  
The French Academy of Medicine has awarded the Prix Ernest Godard of £40 to Dr. F. W. Pavy, honorary physician to the King Edward VII. Hospital, and consulting physician to Guy's Hospital, for his works on carbohydrates and diabetes.

**FLOWERS FOR LONDON.**  
The flower crop in the Isles of Scilly is very forward, and some of the growers are already picking narcissi. In a few weeks' time scores of tons of daffodils and other spring flowers will be despatched from the islands to London.

The Duke of Westminster has contributed £500 to the Bishops' Fund for unemployed.

To avoid paying a halfpenny bridge toll, at Chester-le-Street, a man named Lewis tried to swim the weir and was drowned.

The champion bullock at the Borton Show weighed 2½ cwt., and was the heaviest in the country. It was sold for £43 10s.

At the request of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Sir Chas. Cripps, K.C., has withdrawn his resignation of the office of Vicar-General.

Digging in a trench at Whetstone, near Leicester, a navy named Wm. Agerman, was buried beneath a fall of earth and was asphyxiated.

The Bishop of Dorking, who shortly proceeds to Tokyo as Bishop Avdrys's successor, has been presented with an episcopal ring and £187 by many admirers of his work at Dorking.

With the object of "shaking off a cold," Wm. Sambrook, aged 50, engaged a slipper-bath at Barton-on-Trent Corporation Baths. Shortly after, his nephew, who is one of the attendants, discovered him dead in his bath.

Mr. Schwab, the American steel magnate, informed the Tariff Committee at Washington that steel rails which in 1890 cost 48s. a ton to make in America—nearly 28s. less than in England—now cost £4 6s. in the former country.

Mr. Gladstone has received a reply from the General Medical Council, which does not see its way to support legislation to make practical training in the use of anaesthetics a compulsory part of medical education, but is communicating with the licensing bodies as to how far they have given effect to the council's recommendations on this subject.

**FIREPROOF WHISKERS.**  
In consequence of a number of casualties that occurred last year, the fire brigade superintendent of St. Louis has issued an order that all persons drinking at Santa Clara this Christmas must use asbestos instead of cotton wool for making whiskers and snow.

**CONFIRMATION IN AN ALMSHOUSE.**  
Dr. Chase, Bishop of Ely, is an alms-house at Leighton Buzzard confirmed three aged inmates who were too infirm to attend the public service in the parish church. He was assisted in full canonicals, and was attended by the vicar of the parish as chaplain. The eldest candidate was 81 years of age.

**NO TROUBLES OF WOE.**  
A party of naval officers and authors and three others of the Japanese navy attended the funeral at Portsmouth of Mrs. Froude, T. Jane, the wife of the prominent writer on naval affairs. By Mrs. Jane's express desire the coffin was covered with draperies and flowers of violet and pink, and the wreaths were of the brightest hues.

The Rev. W. M. Scott, of Liverpool, has accepted the pastorate of George, at Congregational Church, Croydon.

The Rev. H. A. M. Wilcox, who has just died at Walsden, Warwick, where he was vicar for 32 years, was originally a farmer.

Profits of the Cheltenham Pageant are stated to be £1,100, of which £300 is for county charities and the balance for the Veterans' Fund.

Baron Heyking, formerly Russian Consul-General for India, has been appointed Russian Consul-General in London.

Ald. J. Marriott, of Coventry, who has just celebrated his 90th birthday, is Father of the Town Council, in which he has served 48 years.

Mr. W. A. Bowie has been elected chairman of the council of the Ragged School Union and Shaftesbury Society for the coming year.

A married woman named Card, of Sandridge, was scalded to death by upsetting a kettle of boiling water over herself.

Prince Rudolf of Liechtenstein, master of the Emperor of Austria's household, has died aged 71. He was a great sportsman, and very popular in English society.

Damage amounting to £5,000 was caused by a fire at the premises of Messrs. Dancer and Andrews, stick manufacturers, in Dufferin-st., St. Luke's, E.C.

It was found at an inquest held at St. Agnes, Cornwall, that an aged widow named Cox had died from syncope while attempting to commit suicide by strangulation.

Eight elementary schools in Bishop's Cleeve have been closed owing to an epidemic of mumps. More than 80 children in one school have been attacked by the illness.

It is reported by the Electric Supply Committee of Marylebone Council that the commission paid to Mr. A. Wright, consulting electrical engineer to the council, on capital expenditure connected with the municipal electric undertaking, now totals £22,520.

**REMARKABLE ESCAPE.**  
Although Mrs. Smith, of Bideford, was pinned down by her hair when a large chimney crashed through the roof of her house, she escaped unhurt. Her hair had to be cut away before she could be extricated.

**TURBINES FOR THE NEPTUNE.**  
The contract for the turbines at the Lushington Neptune, to be built at Portsmouth, has been placed with John Brown (Ld.), Clydebank. The turbines and other machinery are valued at a quarter of a million sterling.

**LAUGH AND GROW WELL.**  
A doctor in Frankfurt is prescribing laughter as a cure for nervous disease. He says outbursts should laugh regularly every day, and warns that half-hearted measures are useless—they must laugh until the tears run down their cheeks.

Mr. E. E. Codrington, the Administrator of N.W. Rhodesia, has died in London.

The City Corporation has made a grant to the funds of the Gordon Hospital for Fistula, etc., Vauxhall Bridge-rd., S.W., of £100.

A novel contribution to a fund, which is being raised in Dulwich for the unemployed, is an offering by a local firm of 1,000 pints of new milk.

The King has conferred upon the 5th (City of London) Battalion, the London Regt. the honour of becoming its honorary colonel.

Through a toy motor-car knocking a figure representing Father Christmas against the electric lighting wires a disastrous fire occurred at a draper's shop at Peterborough.

Mr. Theo. Hay, headmaster of Midhurst Grammar School, has been appointed from among 116 applicants as headmaster of (Chelmsford Grammar School.

Mr. Jas. Bennett, a member of a popular Co. Limerick family, was thrown from his horse and killed instantly while out riding at a stag hunt, near Knockany.

A branch of the Capital and Counties Bank at Freshwater, Isle of Wight, has been burned to the ground, together with an ironmonger's and furniture establishment.

The Japanese Government has given £100 to the "Strangers' Home for Amalies in the West India Dock-rd., in recognition of the care accorded to Japanese subjects by the home.

Dr. A. Pearce Higgins, lecturer of Clare College, Cambridge, has been appointed lecturer in Public International Law at the London School of Economics and Political Science (University of London) in succession to Dr. L. Oppenheim, who has been recently elected Whewell Professor of International Law in the University of Cambridge.

**MANY DEATH SENTENCES.**  
Between Oct. 14 and Nov. 14 210 death sentences were passed in Russia, and there were 22 executions. The number of death sentences for the past 11 months was 1,491, and there were 633 executions during the same period.

**THE OLDEST SURGEON.**  
The Royal College of Surgeons has sent a congratulatory letter to Surgeon-maj. Hy. B. Hinton, of Glenclyffe, South Australia, who was born at Portsmouth in 1815, and is the oldest member of the college. Surgeon-maj. Hinton enjoys perfect health, and walks five miles each day for pleasure.

**RESTORING THE VICTORY.**  
Three large ship's lanterns of the same size and pattern as those carried at the battle of Trafalgar, have been placed in position at the stern of the Victory at Portsmouth. Other proposals for restoring the Victory are understood to be in abeyance because of the expense which they would entail.

A meeting of Lewisham Borough Council was suspended owing to the conduct of the unemployed, who had taken possession of the gallery.

Since Jan. 1 23,028 dogs—chiefly stray animals seized by the police—have been received at the Home for Lost Dogs, Battersea, S.W.

Chin Hsiang, a graduate and scholar of some attainments, has discovered a seed from which an excellent wine can be produced.

Directors of the Metropolitan Opera House, New York, have offered a prize of \$2,000 for an American opera. The competition is open only to native composers.

The unemployed of Fiddington, Kentington, and Hammermith are to be invited to see the pantomime at the Coronet Theatre, Nottingham, on Dec. 22, 23, and 24.

"No doubt most of you will have to work for money, but do not sacrifice your lives to it," advised Lord Avebury in distributing prizes to pupils of the Camack Institute.

The District Rly. Co. has decided to allow the public to use, free of charge, the subway from South Kensington Station to a point near the Albert Hall.

A youth who was informed at Ipswich Police Court that he would be bound over to keep the peace replied that he was going to join the Army.

Among a number of engravings from the collection of Lord Amberst which were sold by auction was Durer's "Adam and Eve," which fetched £195.

A mechanic named Ed. Anderson was sentenced to two months' hard labour at Brixton for holding the hands of his six-year-old son before the fire until they were blistered in order to teach the child not to play with fire.

Sir W. Colvin has died in Allahabad at the age of 61. He practised before the High Court of Judicature, Allahabad, and was for five years a member of the Legislative Council of the United Provinces, India. He was a brother of Sir Auckland Colvin.

**PROTESTING THE PUBLIC.**  
Wm. Nash was fined 5s. at the Marylebone Police Court for expectorating in a train on the Charing Cross and Hampstead tube. This was the first summons of the kind that had been issued.

**VANISHING THREPENNY BIT.**  
"I do not see as many threepenny bits in the collection plates nowadays," said the Bishop of Salisbury in a sermon at Colehill. "In the olden days people used to joke about the coin, but I sometimes wish now it was still with us."

**TERRITORIAL NURSING STAFF.**  
A committee has been formed at Cambridge to enrol 120 trained nurses, who would come forward in time of emergency to staff the 1st Eastern General Hospital of 520 beds. The staff of physicians and surgeons has already been formed.

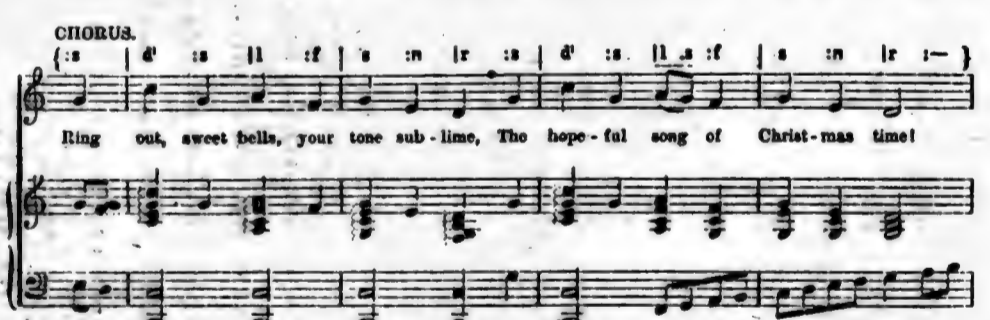
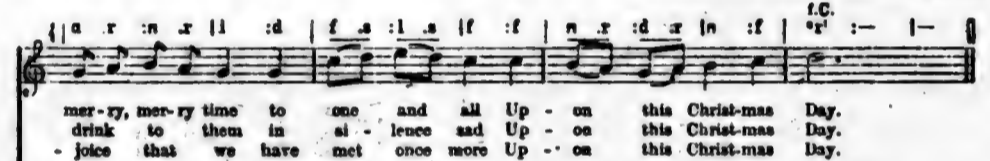
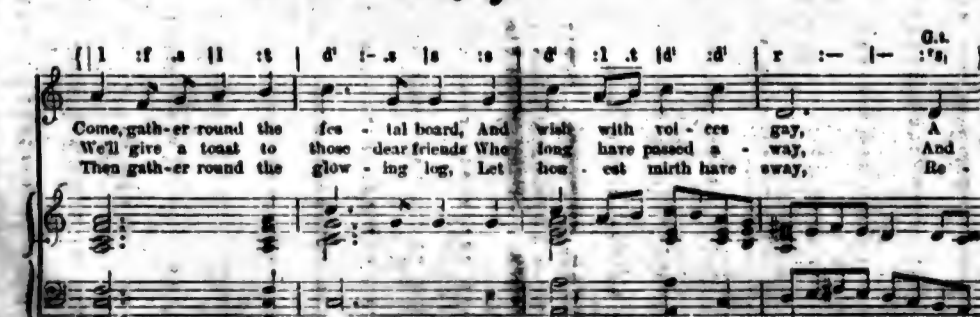
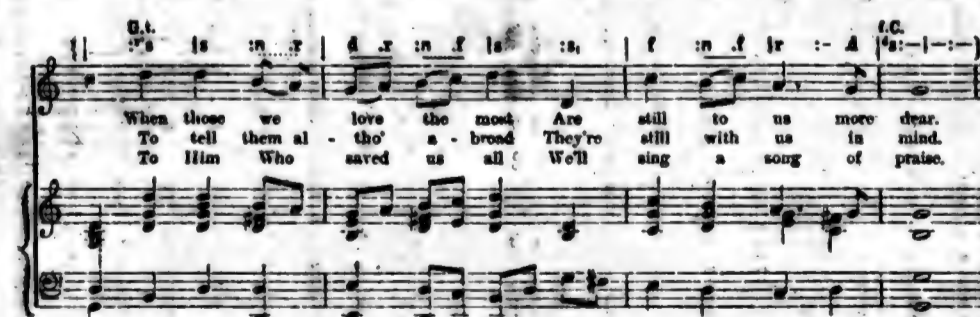
NEXT WEEK, "TIS A NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE," BY JOHN P. HARRINGTON AND ORLANDO POWELL.

## A CHRISTMAS SONG.

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## 23


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